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BIRTHS.

At Rushmore Lodge, St. Thomas's Walk, Singapore, the wife of A. COULCHER, of a daughter.

On 13th August, at 22, Haskell Road, Shanghai, the wife of F. H. PFEIFER, of a daughter.

On 17th August, at Kuling, the wife of F. H. ARMSTRONG, of a son.

DEATHS.

On the 3rd August, at Dimbala Estate, Kottagala (Ceylon), GODFREY BROOKS, of Stony-cliff Estate, Kottagala, aged 36 years.

On the 8th August, at Holbrook, Whitehill Road, Gravesend, England, ANNIE MARY, the beloved wife of W. M. B. Arthur, formerly of the Hongkong Government. Aged 65 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT,
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1905.

RUSSIA'S REGENERATION.

(21st August.)

Russia has at last been granted her Magna Charta. To Britons who have fought and won their freedom, the status of the peasant-proprietor has always seemed inexplicable. It was until now without form or body. It resembled one of those mathematical problems which ends *reductio ad absurdum*. When writers arose in Russia to tell the world something of the character of the life there, the sum total of their views was found in the expression *wodka*. But within the last hundred years a changeful movement has been working from within. One movement after another, each emanating from the Throne, has had as its object the alleviation of the condition of the working classes. As a rule the effects of these new laws have been absolutely nullified by the men appointed to govern their imposition. Now we learn that the great, almost omnipotent, and certainly omniscient Poyedonostseff has formulated a *charta* which, if carried out, should lead to the regeneration of Russia. At the time that Britain, or rather England, was granted her rights by the reigning sovereign John, few were in a position to take advantage of the grant. Russia is in the position to-day that England was in the fifteenth century; and what Bulwer Lytton in his "Last of the Barons" said

about the state of the people in those days applies to Russia at the present day. In Hongkong, of late, people have seen samples of the Russians who inhabit the central provinces, and it can hardly be said that they represent marked types of development. Yet these same people can emigrate to the United States and become loyal, intelligent and patriotic citizens within one generation. That fact alone proves that the acquisition of this great grant of freedom will be adequately employed by the citizens entitled to vote. A very significant sentence appears—"Under the new proclamation, officials of the State will be ineligible for election to the Assembly." In other words, even the Procurator-General of the Holy Synod has doubts respecting the qualifications of those who practically rule Russia. The great point is that an Assembly has been conceded, or, as we should say, a parliament. The power of that parliament depends upon the second chamber, the Imperial Council. If that Imperial Council is limited in its veto, then the safety and integrity of Russia is assured. No free people, no people who even considered themselves even comparatively free, ever revolted. So long as a standard of constitutional reform obtains, people are ready to abide by constitutional methods. Greece with her painted statues, and Rome with her effervescent tribunes, fell on the rock of impotent parliament. Russia has never and, in our time, may never reach a pinnacle of fame as an independent originator, but Russia with a free, untrammelled Assembly wherein the police are nonentities can accomplish great deeds. And this favour of an elected Assembly is due—can we doubt it?—to the prowess of Japanese arms. All reference to what writers were pleased to term the Yellow Peril has now faded and gone, but Japan has helped to raise a power which none can estimate. With a body, empowered to legislate in all matters of State—not provincial reform, Russia is able to defy outside opinion. No matter how the votes of the small landed proprietors are likely to be given at first according to the behest of the superior, still the very fact of a certain elective freedom being granted will engender that clarity of thought which essentially belongs to a free people. The Jews, we are told, are to have some say in the matter. Better for Russia to-day had she treated the Jews as human beings instead of monsters of iniquity. These are no small reforms that have been granted. Their importance is great not only to this generation but immeasurably more to the next. The emancipation of the serfs some sixty years ago was as nothing to this, for here we have the incubator of educated opinion. Russia has been badly beaten by the Japanese, but Russia proper is still unharmed. By this Assembly, Russia may raise up a free and independent people, whose patriotism will help her to conquer the eastern hemisphere, not for purposes of mere conquest, but to raise and enlighten the races who have not yet accepted modern manners. Whatever restrictions there may be in this Magna Charta, it is a move in the right direction, and every man of intelligence will welcome it.

TIENSIN-CHINKIANG RAILWAY.

(22nd August.)

An extremely important question is involved in the special telegram which we publish to-day stating that the Waiwupu desires to see the Tientsin-Chinkiang railway agreement cancelled. It is necessary to understand the situation in order to grasp the significance of the attitude adopted by the Foreign Office of the Chinese Government. The proposed Tientsin-Chinkiang railway was projected some nine or ten years ago when the railway boom in China was at its height. Every European country recognised the immense possibilities of vast and profitable trade in laying a network of railways through China. The Germans, having acquired a *locus standi* at Kiaochow, proceeded to construct a triangular road to Yichow and Tsinan. The British and German railway concessionaires determined to build a line from Tientsin to Chinkiang, which would touch at Tsinan. The contract for the latter railway was signed, but no survey had been made, although it was known that the railway was bound to prove a commercial success, touching as it did a prosperous and thriving district. At the same time the Germans made their position clear that they considered themselves entitled to preferential rights so far as railway enterprise went in the province of Shantung. The meaning of the Anglo-German contract was, therefore, that while British contractors were authorised to construct the Tientsin-Chinkiang line from Chinkiang to a spot near Yichow, the Germans would control operations from Yichow to Tientsin, thereby being in a position to determine the conditions which should operate over two parallel lines, running within a comparatively short distance of each other. It may be noted that Chinkiang is the distributing centre for the provinces of Kiangsi, Kiangsu, Anhui, Shantung and Honan, so that although it is not a large city as cities go in China, having only some 150,000 inhabitants, its trade is exceedingly valuable. In this matter of the Tientsin-Chinkiang railway Britain and Germany have worked loyally together, and it has never for a moment been suggested that Germany would be unable to fulfil her part of the enterprise. When the Boxer rebellion intervened to set back for a time the schemes of those interested in opening up the country, the furtherance of railway enterprise naturally

suffered, but there was never any suggestion that it was other than merely dormant. When the air had cleared somewhat, Britain at once proceeded to impress her views on the Chinese Government that the railway must be proceeded with, and so successful was the home Government through the Minister at Peking that Britain obtained all the necessary rights and privileges to proceed with the construction of her section of the Tientsin-Chinkiang line. It seems that German contractors were hardly prepared—except under new conditions which were set forth and embodied in an agreement that was submitted for signature to the Chinese Government—to commence with the railway at the moment. Whereupon the Chinese authorities pointed out, quite fairly in our opinion, that many foreign syndicates had obtained concessions for the building of railways, but had made no real attempt to take advantage of these concessions. The Chinese Government demanded proof that the German concessionaires were in a position to begin operations on the proposed line immediately; and apparently the assurances of the German Minister on this head were not considered satisfactory, for we find the German Minister complaining that his British colleague is supporting the Chinese Government. The demand that Germany should give clear proof of her subjects' ability to proceed with the construction of the Tientsin-Chinkiang railway without further delay does not seem to be an unreasonable one in view of the numerous concessions which have been granted and have never been utilised. The Canton-Hankow railway, for instance, is still in the air and is not likely to materialise for some time to come. At all events, when Germany protested that Sir Ernest Satow was in sympathy with the Chinese Government's demands, an answer was promptly given that the British alone had the right to build the railroad, and that Germany could not be permitted to claim preferential rights in railway matters in Shantung. Of course, this imported fresh matters of controversy into the diplomatic dealings with the Chinese Government. Baron Mumm von Schwarzenstein, the German Minister, was in communication with his Government, and eventually the situation was cleared. The Anglo-German agreement ratified by the Chinese Government, and everything made ready for a beginning with the operations on the line. Now the Chinese Government, repenting of their action in signing the agreement, wish to have it cancelled. At that rate, considering how long the question has already been under discussion, the railway would never be built. Sir Ernest Satow has emphatically declared that the railway agreement cannot be cancelled; the German Minister has telegraphed home for instructions, and it would seem that the long and dilatory methods which so frequently characterise the action of the Chinese Government in matters of reform are again in the ascendant. Apparently the Waiwupu is unwilling to see the projected railways in China built by foreigners. They have been making strenuous appeals to the gentry of Kwangtung to subscribe the capital necessary for the construction of the Canton-Hankow railway, and so far as we can learn that appeal has been successfully answered. But there is no sign that any attempt to start operations has been made. Even with regard to the Canton-Kowloon railway there was some effort made to delay matters, by insisting that Chinese concessionaires should have the right to construct the line to the British frontier. Fortunately that difficulty was safely passed, and in characteristic fashion the British Government has begun the work of surveying the route. So that while the Chinese Government is considering the idea of constructing the Canton-Hankow line the Canton-Kowloon railway will be completed. Once the Canton-Kowloon line is finished, it will be the duty of the British concessionaires to push the line on to Hankow and that may prove the easiest solution of the problem, unless the American syndicate, which was lately believed to have the intention of starting the railway and has so far failed to appear on the scene, decide to come forward at the last moment. Originally the Canton-Hankow railway was projected as an Anglo-American affair, and it may yet turn out that the first idea will be realised. The whole line was estimated to be about 700 miles in length, of which 600 miles belonged to the American concession. With regard to the Tientsin-Chinkiang railway there is no reliable data as to the length of the line, but a glance at the map will show that it should be about the same length as the southern road from Canton-Hankow. Every writer of any importance has insisted on the value of the Tientsin-Chinkiang railway as an important factor in widening the horizon of the people in the provinces of Shantung, Kiangsu and Honan, and it is to be regretted that there should be this hitch when everything seemed settled. The Germans, we are told, are ready to build their section of the line; the British are simply waiting for the opportunity, and the whole trouble seems to be that the Waiwupu are alarmed at the prospect of these railways being operated by foreigners. It is a most unsatisfactory position for everybody concerned. Fortunately in Sir Ernest Satow we have a representative who is thoroughly acquainted with the character of the Chinese Government and he is not likely to be bluffed by a little talk on the part of the Waiwupu. The railway has to be built—it will be built by Britain alone if necessary, but by Britain and Germany if all goes well. And the sooner a start is made the better it will be; unless we are to have a repetition of the Canton-Hankow fiasco.

"WHEN GREEK MEETS GREEK"

(23rd August.)

The quarrel between Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India, and Lord Kitchener, the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Forces, has culminated in the resignation of the Viceroy. It is difficult for those not actually on the spot to understand the difficulties which have arisen and have led to such a dramatic conclusion. The bone of contention, however, seems to have been the question of civil and military power. Lord Curzon claimed that the military forces should be subject to civil authority; Lord Kitchener, on the other hand, maintained that the military power should be pre-eminent in India, in order that the designs of Russia in the north and west should be frustrated. Both the soldier and the civilian are masterful and wilful men; each has been the idol of the community; and none would dispute the ability or disinterestedness of either. In India, however, they were conflicting forces and as Kitchener refused to give way Curzon has been compelled to resign. The immediate cause of his resignation was the receipt of a communication from the Imperial Government overruling his suggestions in what is described as an arbitrary manner and confirming the views submitted by Lord Kitchener. Lord Curzon is a brilliant personality and, indeed, he is looked upon as a future Prime Minister. His success in the political arena has been little short of marvellous, but while he has kept the esteem of the British people during his sojourn in India, his firm hand was felt and resented by the Indian people. When it was announced that his term of office as Viceroy had been extended there was a deep chorus of protest. Now all that has been changed, we read, simply because in fighting the principles enunciated by Lord Kitchener, the European and natives consider that Lord Curzon was fighting the battle of the civilians. A well-informed Calcutta writer, in a home paper, remarks in this connection: "Opinion is overwhelmingly against Lord Kitchener and the Imperial Government. The result has been a complete change in the public attitude towards the Viceroy. In order to realise the full force of this fact, it is necessary to remember the unique unpopularity which Lord Curzon had attained. The Indian people have been protesting in public meetings against his general policy, and hardly refraining from issuing an appeal for his recall. With the European community Lord Curzon had little or no popularity left. It was generally felt that his return was a mistake, and that India had more than enough of him. The tone of the once faithful Press was growing harsh. To-day Lord Curzon has the Press on his side. With hardly more than one exception, the important newspapers regard him as the champion of the civil power against a threatened military despotism. They consider that he has completely out-argued the Commander-in-Chief, and they lay stress upon the fact that never before has the unanimous opinion of the Viceroy and his Cabinet been disregarded in favour of the view of a single member of Council." It is doubtful, however, whether England will consider these protests against Lord Kitchener's methods. Lord Kitchener was sent to India with a clear and definite task to perform. He was required, as a great and successful organiser rather than a brilliant soldier, to reform the army, to re-build the defences of the Indian Empire, to guard against invasion, and to calculate how all these things could be done without preposterously increasing the cost of the army in India. Following these instructions, Lord Kitchener set about his duty with all the energy and thoroughness which have been characteristic of the man. He explored the frontier from Thibet to Baluchistan; he searched the hearts of the border tribes and found that they were being prepared by secret agents to help a Russian advance when the time proved propitious; he examined the mud defences of the great caravan routes. Then he formulated a great scheme of military enterprise, involving the re-distribution of the troops, the erection of adequate and modern defences and the preparation of means to defeat any attempt to invade India from the north. Some of India's counsellors cried out that Lord Kitchener had discovered a mare's nest; there was no chance of a Russian invasion; there was no need to spend all this money on a spectre of the imagination. Then came the clash between the civil and military powers. It arose apparently over some objection which Lord Kitchener found to the military Adviser and it has ended in the resignation of the Viceroy. While there may be sympathy with the retiring Viceroy in his failure to play a single hand against the hero of Khartoum, it must be confessed that Kitchener's contention that the army must be the predominant factor in the political world of India seems right and proper. India was won by the sword; she must be held by the sword, and must look to the sword for safety against invaders, who would be only too willing to cause a diversion in their own internal affairs by a popular demonstration against India. Lord Kitchener's aims to provide India with a circle of steel, and to guard against the traitor on the hearth, have been upheld by the Government at home. It was a case of Greek meeting a Greek when Curzon and Kitchener came together, and now we see the result. It will be interesting to watch how Lord Curzon's retirement will affect his chances in political life at home. Lord Minto, the new Viceroy, is a quiet, peaceable gentleman who may be expected to take things easily and follow the path of least resistance. He has been Governor-General of Canada, and quarrelled with nobody. His Lordship should act

as a sort of oil on troubled waters; one thing is certain, the affairs of India are not likely to loom so large on the public horizon as they have done since Lord Curzon put his hand to the tiller, but after all that may not be bad for India, who has grown mightily important under the public eye.

APPEAL TO THE GOVERNOR.

(24th August.)

The administration of justice in a Colony like Hongkong—which is the temporary resting-place of a most cosmopolitan population, whose habits, manners, and customs are frequently at variance with all our preconceived notions—is surrounded by so many complex features that it is usually a thankless and unprofitable task to comment, adversely or otherwise, on the judgments emanating from the Magistracy. But a case arose the other day which, we would submit, is worth the attention of the general community and the consideration of His Excellency the Governor. On the 15th inst., 23 Chinese, described as coolies, were arraigned before the second Magistrate, charged with burning joss paper in the street, and having pleaded guilty to this heinous offence they were fined \$5 each, with the exception of one individual who was mulcted in the respectable sum of \$10. The occasion was the All Souls Festival, one of the most popular and important events in the Chinese calendar, when those on earth sacrifice by the harmless methods of burning a few scraps of joss paper in the hope that they may alleviate the pains and penalties of relatives who have passed to the other world, and at the same time propitiate the gods of the nether regions. Classical readers will remember that there was a similar event in mythology, but the hero, Orpheus, failed in his quest. In order then to make these sacrifices satisfactory, the Chinese believe that they must collect their joss paper in a heap and set fire to it. Naturally, there is a little smoke, but the conflagration—if that is not an exaggerated term for the miniature bonfire—lasts only a few seconds, and he must be a misanthropic individual who can see danger in this celebration. But the ever-zealous police apparently found kudos and praise abounding in their successful attempt to suppress the religious beliefs and sacrifices of the coolies, for the 23 Chinese who were hauled before the Magistrate were fined. We are not concerned with the amount of the fine for such a trivial offence, although we would remind the authorities that \$5 is no inconsiderable sum to the labouring Chinese who live from hand to mouth. The question which we would bring to the notice of His Excellency the Governor is the violation of one of the great principles of British rule. It has been set forth time and again by the British Parliament and by our Sovereign Lord the King, that the religious rites and beliefs of a conquered people brought under the rules of Britain and subjected to the freedom of the British flag, should be respected, permitted and untrammelled in every way. Witness the case of India, where a multitude of religious beliefs are in full swing, where caste clashes with caste, and ceremony with ceremony! There the people are left absolutely free to worship as they please. The greatest victories of the British flag have been crowned by this glorious charter that a people and a nation may adhere to their old beliefs without let or hindrance, nay, will be protected, if need be, by the supreme sovereign power. Time and again British constabulary and soldiers in all parts of the world have been called on not to prosecute the worshippers of what in our complacency we may brand a false or an effete belief, but to guard the devotees, to protect the "altars of our fathers and the temples of our gods" as the Roman had it. Here in Hongkong we have reached a higher stage. We have a Magistracy which apparently can flout with impunity the innocent worship of the Chinese coolies, and fly in the face of all Imperial promises. The Kaffir may bow down to his heathen bunch of feathers, the Carib may worship a sculptured stone, the Maori can make gods for himself, the Red Indian is at pleasure to do what he likes in the matter of praising a great Spirit, and all are under the protection of Britain's strong right hand. But when a score of impecunious, half-starved Chinese coolies, seek to propitiate their gods, and show their worship for their ancestors by endeavouring to secure for them an easier place in the next world, by burning joss paper on the street, the law swoops down upon them and they are punished with as much severity as if they were thieves and pick-pockets. These coolies are bound to seek the streets if they are to sacrifice; the wealthy have their balconies and back gardens—the coolie has his blanket for his worldly possessions. Why then should the coolie not get a chance? Some years ago when Sir G. William Des Voeux was Governor of Hongkong a somewhat similar case arose. The coolies in that case also were fined, and the facts were brought to His Excellency's notice. With a magnanimity and impartiality and a due appreciation of what was right and proper, Sir G. William Des Voeux exercised his prerogative to remit the fines of the unwitting offenders. We submit that here is a case where his successor, Sir Matthew Nathan, might exercise that great gift—the privilege of mercy—by remitting the fines of the unfortunate coolies who contravened a law which was not directed against their religious observances. We appeal on behalf of those who are themselves unable to appeal for that justice tempered with the supreme quality of mercy which we are proud to think still reposes in the breasts of our rulers, and we

trust that our appeal will not be in vain. Sir Matthew Nathan has shown himself not unmindful of the duties of his high office in the past; we trust he will see the force of these remarks on this occasion.

HONGKONG AND MANILA.

(25th August.)

Secretary Taft, as he is familiarly called by his compatriots in the Philippines, has disappointed a few people in the islands there on account of his reticence on the question of the inter-coastal and inter-island trade. It used to be an axiom that what a man said he meant, but our own statesman, Gladstone, discovered, after a French leader's ironical remark, that words were only meant to conceal thoughts. Senator Taft has never been accused of unduly favouring British enterprise, although he has given the highest encomiums to Britain as a nation, but he has failed to give a deliverance upon the question which affects Hongkong merchants in the highest degree—the question of free inter-port trade. While the Secretary for War has remained studiously quiet over this subject, a new series of regulations—in which we can see the leading hand of the Imperialist from America—appears in a calm and ordinary statement that certain steamers and schooners have been employed in Government business in the islands. The United States Government have taken over the duties of maritime authority, and they have accepted bids. A Manila paper, which is evidently entitled to speak on the subject says in a headline, "Bids show noticeable reductions," which, we take it, means that outsiders have been unable to compete with the people on the spot. At the same time, these bids for inter-island transport service are not what we want in Hongkong. The transport service should undoubtedly belong to the people, or be under the flag of those who are engaged in transportation. Nevertheless, it is the thin end of the wedge, and the day is not far distant when American-owned vessels will carry the bulk of the traffic in and around the Philippines. Of course it may be said that British capital is usually invested in the undertakings, but that is not everything. What we want to know, just as the people in the Philippines want to know, is the trend of this movement towards centralisation. It seems to us that if the Manila people are not watchful, they will see their bugbear, the trusts, in their midst once more, exploiting the country for their own behoof, and without regard to the needs and necessities of a Colony which wants as much watching as a three-months' old babe. There is no reason whatever why Hongkong and Manila should not be on the friendly terms of first cousins. Secretary Taft is not, we hope, averse to this idea, and those Americans whom we are privileged to meet here, are staunch upholders of that idea. The fact is that for some years to come the two great Anglo-Saxon cities of the East should work in harmony. Leave demagogues alone, for, as a rule, their ability to influence a country depends upon their lack of knowledge. So long as the two big centres have their being in mutual respect there is hope. It is no glorification of Hongkong to say that she is the older port—the greatest tonnage port in the world—and that should be, at least, one reason why Manila should see the force of playing for once the old game of *festina lente*. Hongkong will never be jealous of such an acute and enterprising port as Manila. At the same time, the slow-moving Briton does not care to be "bested," which is a good thing for Hongkong, likewise for Manila. The sum-total is this: that Hongkong and Manila can work together harmoniously; as friends they can advance the affairs of the world in the East, and it is to be hoped that the leaders of opinion in both places will recognise that great fact.

TELEGRAMS.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

PEACE HOPEFUL.

RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS

REPORTED COUNTERMANNED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 21st August, 2.55 p.m.

It is reported that Russia has countermanded the instructions for the despatch of reinforcements for Manchuria.

[The above wire appears to confirm a San Francisco telegraphic message to the Manila papers in which it was stated that "what is regarded as the most hopeful indication of peace is an order of the Tsar countermanding the despatch of more troops to Manchuria."—Ed. H.K.T.]

RAILWAYS FOR CHINA.

THE TIENSIN-CHINKIANG LINE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 21st August, 2.55 p.m.

The Chinese Government intends borrowing the further sum of £600,000 from the Belgians for the purpose of railway development.

The Waiwupu is desirous of having the Tientsin-Chinking line agreement cancelled, but H.E. Sir Ernest Satow says it will be impossible for this to be done.

Haron Mumm von Schwarzenstein has telegraphed to Berlin for instructions in the matter.

[With reference to the above telegram, on April 12th last our Shanghai correspondent sent us the following wire which throws further light on the subject:—The German Minister has held long interviews at Peking with Prince Ching and His Excellency Wu Tingfang, in connection with the proposed German section of the railway from Tientsin to Chinking. Baron Mumm von Schwarzenstein declares that his compatriots are willing to commence operations immediately. The Russian Minister is supporting the action of his German colleague. The Chinese Board decline to sign the agreement pressed for by Germany unless the parties concerned can establish sufficient proof that a commencement with the laying down of the line will be made forthwith. The Chinese Ministers point out that many foreign syndicates have obtained concessions from the Chinese Government for the building of railways which they have so far made no real attempt to commence. The German Minister complains that Sir Ernest Satow is supporting the Chinese Government, but Great Britain's representative asserts that the British alone have the rights to build the railroad.—Ed., H.K.T.]

BELGIANS BUSY.

ANOTHER LINE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 23rd August, 2.25 p.m.

The Belgians have asked the Waiwupu for permission to construct a railroad from Shanghai to Changsha.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

JAPAN'S DEMANDS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 23rd August, 2.25 p.m.

Japan insists upon the payment by Russia of an indemnity, and also the cession of Saghalien.

THIBET COMMISSIONER

PROCEEDS TO LONDON.

APPOINTED AMBASSADOR.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 24th August, 11.15 a.m.

Deputy Lieutenant-General Tang Shio Yi, the Chinese special Imperial High Commissioner to Tibet, has been ordered to proceed to London and continue the treaty negotiations.

He has been appointed Chinese Ambassador to the Court of St. James's in succession to H.E. Chang Ta-Jen, whose three years' term has now expired.

[Early in the year while journeying to Calcutta H.E. Tang Shio Yi remained a few hours in Hongkong and was entertained at dinner by a large number of his compatriots.—Ed., H.K.T.]

PEACE CONFERENCE.

THE DISPUTE.

ROOSEVELT'S PROPOSAL.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 25th August, 1.10 p.m.

President Roosevelt proposes that the dispute which has arisen in connection with peace terms, be settled by a reference to five persons of celebrity.

TERRIBLE DISASTER

ON INLAND SEA.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 25th August, 1.10 p.m.

The steamer *Baralong* has rammed the Japanese transport *Kinjo-maru*, near the Himejima lighthouse in the Inland Sea.

The *Kinjo-maru's* bows rose perpendicular and the steamer sank in three minutes, taking down with her 125 officers and men of the Imperial engineers, all of whom were drowned.

The *Baralong* steamed around the scene of the disaster and managed to rescue thirty-six.

SANITARY BOARD.

22nd inst.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board this afternoon, the following item was brought forward:—

TO PREVENT NUISANCES.

Dr. Pearce, Medical Officer of Health, intimated: I can find no definite instructions issued to Inspectors with reference to the practice of storing manure and manuring gardens with human excrement. From C.S.O. 9609 of 1904 it is not clear what action was definitely decided upon by the Board to be taken in this matter. I have therefore drawn up the attached instructions which I propose to send out if the Board consider that it represents exactly what the Board wishes. The instructions submitted are as follows:—With reference to the custom of the storing of excrement matter for the purpose of manuring gardens, please note that

by-law 8 of the Scavenging and Conservancy Laws requires the removal of such matter to the conservancy boats. The use of such matter in gardens is therefore illegal in the Colony, and if you find any householders not obeying this by-law apply for a notice under section 30 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance. Further, any accumulation of such matter within the city of Victoria or within sufficient distance of any public road or dwelling house must, if it gives rise to evil smells, be regarded as a nuisance and a legal notice, if necessary, be applied for under section 20 (3). As regards Kowloon, in farming districts so far removed from main roads that it cannot be said that a nuisance detrimental to the health of passers-by or dwellers in the neighbourhood (other than the farmers themselves) is caused by the above mentioned accumulations, action need not be taken. With regard to the use of this excrement, of either kind, for manuring purposes in villages and districts unfrequented by the public, it is almost if not quite impossible to prove that any one householder has allowed it to be removed to the gardens instead of to the boats. By-law 3 referred to above cannot therefore be strictly enforced. If it is desired to prevent the use of fresh excrement as manure by the farmers or gardeners themselves, this can only be done by proving a nuisance to exist which may be dangerous to health. This practice may certainly always be dangerous to health and especially in times of epidemics of cholera or typhoid. Notices, therefore, under section 20 (3) should be served on all gardeners and farmers in the Colony who use this manure for their vegetables, which has the appearance of being at all fresh, i.e., which has not been thoroughly subjected to the decomposition process which goes on in the usual Chinese manure pit.

Mr. Rumjahn intimated: I think "reasonable" should be substituted for "sufficient" in par. 2. Gardeners in the City invariably use urine as manure for flower plants. This should be put a stop to.

The Hon. the Director of Public Works intimated: In par. 2 some definite distance should be stated instead of using the word "sufficient"—Query, 50 yards? Recommendations adopted.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

THE ARMED ROBBERY CASE.

21st inst.

The Criminal Sessions resumed its sittings this morning—the Chief Justice, Sir Francis Pigott, on the bench.

The only case before the Court to-day was that in which two Chinamen, Ngan Po and Chan Sze Po, were charged with armed robbery. It was alleged that on the 11th July, the prisoners attacked Cheung Yung Cheung in Pookulam Road and stole from him \$40, a silver watch, a chain, a bangle, a knife, and a pair of shoes. They pleaded not guilty to the charge and a jury was empanelled.

The following gentlemen constituted the jury: Messrs. John James Stutting, Benjamin Buxton, Charles Hayward, Newton John Stubb, William Schmidt, Albert Edward Slaney, and Hermann Rapp.

After hearing evidence the jury found that both prisoners were guilty, and the Chief Justice sentenced the accused to five years' imprisonment, with hard labour.

A DRESSMAKER'S CLAIM

IN COURT.

23rd inst.

In the Summary Court this morning, His Honour Mr. Justice A. G. Wise presiding, an action was heard in which Mrs. Janet Bell sued Mr. Ahmet Rumjahn, for the sum of \$1,000 damages arising out of an alleged breach of agreement.

Mr. H. N. Ferrers, instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. J. Geddes, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, for the defendant.

It appeared, according to an agreement dated 5th January last, that the defendant agreed to employ the plaintiff as manager of the dressmaking and millinery departments at Burlington House for three years at a salary of \$175 per month for the first year, rising to \$200. She was also to receive free board and lodging at the Carlton House, or in the event of the sale of Carlton House by defendant then she was to receive the sum of \$100 per month in lieu of board and lodging. In addition she was to receive a bonus of 5 per cent. on the net yearly profits. The option of terminating this agreement was to be by three months' notice given by the defendant. At the end of the first month it was alleged that the defendant wrote to plaintiff complaining that the work of the first month was unsatisfactory, and stating that it did not improve he must exercise his prerogative and terminate the agreement. On the 20th June plaintiff had to leave the business.

Defendant admitted the agreement and denied that the plaintiff did her duty properly and he summarily dismissed plaintiff on the following grounds, or one or all of them: Repeated wilful disobedience of defendant's orders, accompanied with insolent language; in neglecting to keep a diary of the work done, with customers' names, etc.; neglecting to give the amount paid as wages to tailors and the number of tailors employed each day; refusing to hand over the key of the establishment in her possession; repeated failure to efficiently perform her duties by not furnishing dresses in time agreed upon; and the employment of solicitors by plaintiff, without the authority of defendant, to contest a claim made by a customer, Mrs. Binney, in respect of the cost of material of a dress which it was alleged was spoilt.

Mr. Pollock was proceeding to cross-examine the defendant when His Honour suggested that if an adjournment was had to Chambers an agreement might be come to without further proceedings. The Court accordingly adjourned and on returning His Honour announced that judgment would go by consent in favour of plaintiff for \$900, but there would be no order made for costs. The second case, an action by the same plaintiff against defendant for slander, was withdrawn, no order being made as to costs.

PROMISSORY NOTE.

A POINT IN DISPUTE.

24th inst.

There was a short argument in the Summary Court this morning before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise on the question of the wording of a promissory note upon which Li Yik Tak sought to recover the sum of \$1,000 and costs \$19.25, from the Yee Wo Cheung firm and another of 64, Bonham Strand.

Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared on behalf of the defendant and Mr. R. A. Harding represented the plaintiffs.

It was contended on the one hand that the note was worded in the usual form while the other side submitted that it contained no promise for the money to be repaid. Mr. Thomson pointed out that a case was coming on in the Appeal Court with reference to the question of

promissory notes. He understood that Messrs. Ewins, Harston and Harding appeared on the one side, and Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master on the other.

His Honour—If there is anything coming on, I am not going to deliver a judgment now which may possibly be upset. When I came here twenty years ago these documents were considered promissory notes. What I understand is that in my absence my *locum tenens* continued to take these things in the usual Chinese form as promissory notes, but he suddenly started out in another line. This note is question is not so strong as some of them. It simply says that repayment will be made, and, in fact, if it amounts to anything, it is simply a promise that "I will let you sue me for the money."

Mr. Thomson argued that defendant implied that he would repay the money, and after further argument His Honour reserved judgment until he had had an opportunity of looking into the point that was being taken to the Appeal Court.

DODWELL v. MOSS.

APPLICATION IN COURT.

At Shanghai, on the 15th inst., before Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, acting judge, the case of Dodwell & Co. v. Ernest Joseph Moss was again called on. It was in the form of an application in which the defendant and appellant sought for the dissolution of an interim injunction granted by H. R. M. Provincial Court at Foochow on the 16th day of June, 1904, that he appeared for Mr. Ernest Joseph Moss whom in these proceedings he proposed to call the defendant and appellant.

Mr. R. N. Macleod appeared for the plaintiff and respondent.

Mr. Ellis, for the defendant and appellant, said:—To make it quite clear to your Lordship what, precisely, our contention is, I would refer my Lord to the pleadings which have been filed. You have, doubtless, already looked at them. They were transferred here from Foochow by way of record. There is a petition in this Court, below, which will eventually be tried in this Court. We apply for the dissolution of an injunction granted against the defendant Moss, restraining him from carrying on business in Foochow, Hongkong, Colombo, and elsewhere. For the purposes of this case, it would be essential to consider what was meant by that injunction. I submit that your Lordship should take into consideration what was the covenant, which I think I may read. I would especially refer your Lordship to Clause 4 in the argument. This covenant was drawn up by George Benjamin Dodwell and Ernest Joseph Moss of the one part and Dodwell & Co. of the other part. By clause 4 of the agreement each of the vendors agreed with the Company that he will not at any time thereafter trade in Foochow and certain other places specified.

With regard to an interlocutory injunction, the question is what are the circumstances under which a Court may issue one. On this point I think I could not do better than refer your Lordship to the White Book which I see before you. I am reading from the last (1905) edition, on page 693. It says there:—To entitle plaintiff to an interlocutory injunction the Court should be satisfied that there is a serious question to be tried at the hearing, and that on the facts before it, there is a probability that the plaintiff is entitled to such relief.

Now, if your Lordship will read the covenant, you will see that there is an absolute restraint of trade. I would now refer your Lordship to the greatest authority on injunctions, namely, Carr on Injunctions. I am reading from the 4th (1903) edition, page 14, where it says that "The man who seeks the aid of the Court by means of an interlocutory injunction must show that he is likely to suffer irreparable injury otherwise." It explains further on that all that is meant by the word "irreparable" is that the injury must be serious and not easily repairable by damages. I would remind your Lordship of what is the common mode of procedure in England. The party against whom an injunction is applied for should be made to keep an account of the possible profits he might make with regard to the particular business.

I would also refer your Lordship to the case of Plympton v. Filler on page 286 of the 4th Chancery edition 1876, and especially to Lord Justice Bagguley's words on page 290. Again on page 490 Lord Coleridge's remarks on the case of the Mogul Steamship Co. v. MacGregor are worthy of note in this connection. Further on page 190 of the 15th Chancery Division (1880) I would direct your Lordship's attention to the case of Mitchell v. Henry.

Mr. Ellis proceeded to quote further references, which his Lordship noted. Mr. Macleod replied briefly, laying stress on the fact that defendant in this action was at present a bankrupt.

His Lordship said he would require time to study the cases quoted by Mr. Ellis and would remand the case *sine die*.

The Court then rose.

APPEAL DISMISSED.

At Shanghai, on the 18th inst., Mr. F. A. Bourne, acting judge, delivered judgment in the above as follows:—

This is an appeal against an interim injunction granted by H. R. M. Court at Foochow restraining the defendant and appellant, E. J. Moss, until judgment in the action from carrying on business at Foochow of a similar character to that of the plaintiffs and respondents, Dodwell & Co. I agree with Mr. Ellis, for Mr. Moss, that (1) if there does not appear from the pleadings to be a serious question to be tried at the hearing, or (2) if the balance of convenience is in favour of allowing Mr. Moss to go on trading on condition that he keep an account, the injunction ought to be dissolved. In regard to (1), the reasonableness of the restraint depends on the whole circumstances of the agreement and on the amount of protection required in this particular case. The restraint may be partly good and partly bad. I cannot say that there is not a serious question to be tried. Mr. Moss has clearly broken his agreement and it is for him to show that he has legal excuse. In regard to (2), it is admitted that if the injunction was dissolved, he might either trade for himself, or go into the employment of rivals of Dodwell & Co. In neither case can I see how Dodwell & Co. are to get any damages to which the account he would have to keep, if the injunction were dissolved, might show them to be entitled, supposing they ultimately win their action. On the other hand, Messrs. Dodwell & Co., about whose sufficiency no question has been raised, have given an undertaking to abide by any order the Court may make as to damages sustained by Mr. Moss in consequence of the interim injunction.

In the facts of this case, I think matters will be more effectively kept in statu quo until the trial of the action by Mr. Moss being restrained subject to damages, Dodwell & Co. being obliged to indemnify him, than by the interim injunction being dissolved and Mr. Moss being required to keep an account. The injunction need not continue beyond a few weeks as Messrs. Dodwell & Co. have undertaken to be ready to go to trial by 5th October next. Appeal dismissed. Costs, as in the previous application, to be costs in the cause.

TRAM CONDUCTOR'S THEFT.

24th inst.

Mr. J. Gray Scott, manager of the Hongkong Electric Tramway Company, Ltd., charged 1st Hong Kong, conductor of car No. 6, with the embezzlement of eight cents. From the evidence it was shown that four passengers, taken before Mr. G. N. Orme this morning, boarded the car and paid four cents each for their fares though the conductor only gave them two-cent tickets, and those moreover the accused neglected to punch. Accused admitted that the men paid him four cents each for which "by mistake" he gave them two-cent tickets. He discovered his mistake, and was just about to issue other tickets to the passengers when the ticket inspector boarded the car and after investigating the matter refused to allow him to issue other tickets, and reported the matter to the manager. He was then arrested. He had no explanation to offer for his neglecting to punch the tickets issued. Mr. Gray Scott mentioned that the accused was one of the new men being in the employ of the company about two months. The new man gave a good deal of trouble over the tickets, but he would not press for a heavy penalty, and would be satisfied with a conviction and a light sentence, as a warning to the others. His Worship asked what wages the man received, and was told \$25 a month. His Worship pointed out to defendant that he got a very good wage, and it was higher than other passengers because he was in a position of trust and responsibility, and trustworthiness was expected of him. His employer had not desired to press for a heavy penalty otherwise he would have given accused a longer term. As it was he was convicted and would go to gaol with hard labour for six weeks.

A TEAPOT STORM

AT KOWLOON.

25th inst.

The echoes appear to have been awakened and the Sabbath quiet broken, in Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon, by a scene that had its sequel in the Police Court this morning, when a Mrs. Embleton came in that road was summoned before Mr. G. N. Orme, to answer to the charge of using insulting and abusive language likely to provoke a breach of the peace on Sunday night last. The story as unfolded to the Magistrate this morning was to the effect that on Sunday night Mr. Holmes with his mother, sister, and Miss Drummond were chatting in Mrs. Holmes's drawing room and after a while went in to the verandah and had "some fun" with two dogs, making them do tricks and so on. The dogs did bark, but not excessively. Mr. and Miss Holmes then accompanied Miss Drummond along the street, when, it was stated, Mrs. Embleton came out in to her verandah and called out "you beast you ought to be ashamed of yourself making such a disturbance at this hour of the night." Complainant asked if it was him she was addressing, and defendant said "Yes; your conduct is disgraceful; you don't care for your mother or sister, and your house is like a beehive." Complainant's mother called out to defendant to be careful what she said about her son, who called out "Thank you to defendant, and they all went on up the street.

Miss Holmes and Miss Drummond corroborated the complainant's story, and Mrs. Rutton Thomas said she heard complainant's mother call out to defendant to be careful what she said about her son. She did not hear any barking or any disturbance; the Holmes were quiet people, played the piano sometimes, but did not sing, or make any noise. Defendant said the noise and disturbance were very great, and very annoying; complainant's conduct was disgraceful, and she did call out something to them to stop it.

Lieut. Embleton said the noise kept them awake and woke up his children, which he could not have as they had to go to school the next morning.

His Worship said of course it would be very annoying to be kept awake at night by neighbours making a noise, but there did not appear to have been very much noise in this case. The defendant could have taken out a summons against the plaintiff for disturbing the peace and tranquillity of the neighbourhood, when His Worship could have bound her over. The complainant rather aggravated matters by speaking to the defendant in a sarcastic tone. He would dismiss the case.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Dear Sir,—I shall feel extremely obliged if you will kindly insert this letter in order to give me the opportunity to contradict the false and greatly exaggerated reports as to the standing of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.

By authority of the President (Mr. Paul Morton) I am able to announce that neither the financial soundness, integrity, nor surplus of the Equitable Life have been brought into question.

The Society's business is going on as usual. The available assets have increased during the first half of this year by Gold \$7,296,252.—Yours faithfully,

F. KIENE, Manager

Hongkong, 25th August, 1905.

WEDDING IN HONGKONG.

21st inst.

The wedding of Mr. Morris J. Isaac, manager of the China Mutual Life Insurance Company at Canton, to Miss Florence D. Joseph was solemnized at the Hongkong Synagogue yesterday afternoon. Despite the unpromising character of the weather, there was a large representation of the Jewish Community at the ceremony, and many Europeans also attended.

The synagogue had been beautifully decorated for the occasion. The pillars at the entrance were twined with orange blossoms which had been specially brought from Canton for the occasion, and the interior of the edifice was hung with festoons of evergreens and flowers, which gave a festive appearance to the scene.

The ceremonial was conducted by Mr. J. E. Ellis, who was assisted by Mr. D. S. Gubbay. Mr. E. J. Ellis acted as best man. The bride wore a handsome dress of white satin, trimmed with orange blossoms; the bridesmaids were also attired in white satin. The opening hymn was sung by a choir of boys in the gallery.

After the wedding ceremony, the ritual of which was watched with the utmost interest by the spectators, the guests proceeded to the residence of Mrs. Ellis, at 64 Chancery Lane where a reception was held. The three-tier wedding-cake, which had been "baked" by the Café Weismann, was a beautiful specimen of the confectioner's art. On the call of Mr. Gubbay, the toast of "Health, happiness and prosperity to the bride and bridegroom" was heartily pledged, and the bridegroom responded. Thereafter the band

of the Baluchi Regiment, which is stationed at Kowloon at present, was accommodated on the roof of an adjoining building and discoursed selections of music during the afternoon. The proceedings became of an informal nature, and proved most enjoyable, the bride and bridegroom receiving a host of good wishes for their future life. The party separated in the early part of the evening. We understand that the honeymoon will be spent at Canton, the future home of the newly-married couple.

SHIPPING JETSAW.

22nd inst.

On arrival at Plymouth on 15th ult. the officers of the *St. Kilda*, in course of conversation, laughed at the suggestion that any pressure had been used to compel their release at Port Said, and said, they had been treated kindly on the *Dnieper*. They were free to leave the ship at Port Said, but were content with their quarters, and but for the insistence of the British authorities would have continued the voyage in the *Dnieper* to Libau.

The British steamer *Cranley*, Captain Steele, the first vessel to leave Odessa since the beginning of the disturbances and the mutiny on board the *Kniaz Potemkin*, arrived at Constantinople on July 9, homeward bound. Capt. Steele states that when he left Odessa a large number of steamers, mostly British, were lying in the port, waiting to load or unload their cargoes, but they would probably have to leave without doing so. The *Cranley* was formerly employed carrying coolies from China to Durban.

While lying in the roadstead of Acajutla recently, the Pacific Mail liner *City of Peking*, Captain Robinson, was struck by lightning and had her mizen-topmast shattered. For some hours the storm had raged as only a Central American storm can prevail when it gets under way, and the culmination was a visitation of a thunderbolt that seemed at the time to have shattered the vessel. When the storm had passed and the crew could make an investigation, it was found that the mizen-topmast had been carried away. Part of the noise attending the storm had probably been caused by the falling of the upper works of this mast. It had been broken squarely in two and the severed parts were lying upon the deck. No other part of the big steamer suffered from the thunderbolt. The passengers during the storm were almost in a state of panic, but were reassured by the officers, who said that such storms were common on that coast. The *City of Peking*, which by the way was a regular caller at this port, suffered only a few hours' delay by the storm.

COLLISION IN THE HARBOUR.

Mr. Basil Taylor, Harbour Master, held an inquiry at the Harbour Office this morning into the circumstances connected with the collision which took place between the steam launch *Yan Wo*, Fung Tai, master, and the steam launch *Lee Tung*, Pang Cheung, master, in the waters of the Colony on the morning of the 20th inst.—Fung Tai said he left the Yau-mai Ferry wharf at about 11.40 a.m. on the 20th inst. As soon as he shoved off he saw defendant's launch coming from Yau-mai, and backed out from the wharf, defendant being about 110 feet of his starboard beam when he got clear of the wharf, coming straight on at witness. The *Lee Tung* came straight on and hit witness abreast of the wheel, the *Yan Wo's* engines still going astern at the time of the collision. The *Yan Wo* was not at the helm of the *Lee Tung* at the time. A man named Cheung Kai Shing was at her helm.—The master of the *Lee Tung* said he was coming with passengers from Yau-mai to Victoria when on approaching the wharf he blew one long blast on his whistle, meaning that his engines were going half speed. He stopped when about 200 yards from the end of the pier, as he was going to the eastern side, the other launch lying at the western side. Witness was steering at the time. When about 100 yards off he saw the *Yan Wo* coming out from the pier stern first, and going out far enough to get her bows level with the end of the wharf, when she went ahead again and put her bows into the wharf to pick up some more passengers. On seeing this witness went astern, being then about 40 feet off. The *Yan Wo* then backed out again and the collision took place by witness's launch coming up between the *Yan Wo* and the wharf.—Mr. Taylor: Discharged with a caution; you are both equally to blame.

25th inst.

The s.s. *Indravelli*, having left Chefoo with coolies for South Africa, is expected here about the 11th prox., where she will take in a quantity of cargo before proceeding to Durban. It is not at present decided whether the *Indravelli* will call at Singapore en route.

THE "LYDIA" AT SASEBO.

CREW RELEASED.

The examination of the crew of the German steamer *Lydia*, recently captured by a Japanese warship, having been concluded, the crew has been sent to Nagasaki and released. The *Lydia* is owned in Germany. She left Hamburg on August 8th last for Nikolaevsk, but encountered a gale and being disabled drifted to the Luchus, where she was captured. It is alleged, says the *Japan Chronicle*, that she carried two sets of ship's papers—one for Hongkong and the other for Nikolaevsk. Her cargo was principally salt, oil and iron.

THE AMERICAN BOYCOTT.

21st inst.

A pile of posters figured in the Police Court this morning, as evidence against a number of men who were charged with posting up these bills in the city, without the knowledge and consent of the Registrar General. These posters were said to contain injunctions to the Chinese to "boycott the tramcars, as belonging to and being worked by Americans." The cases were remanded in order to have proper translations of the posters made.

It is reported by telegram from Yingkow to the effect that the boycott started in South China against American goods extended to the Liaotung port. Several letters urging the interruption of American trade have been circulated, and also letters from students in Peking. Meantime, on July 31st, an American steamer with about six thousand cases of kerosine oil arrived at Yingkow. Some of the natives tried to prevent the landing of the cargo. The Japanese Military Administrative Office and the American Consul, however, pacified the Chinamen concerned, and the oil was landed without further hitch. The report adds that the Japanese Government authorities in Yingkow are endeavouring to put down the boycott.

SERVANTS AND THE BOYCOTT.

At a meeting held at Bangkok on the 6th inst. it was decided, by the Bylams, we understand, to bring influence to bear upon household servants employed in American households in Bangkok and to persuade them to leave such employment, and upon others not to engage themselves to Americans during the continu-

ance of the boycott. It was further suggested that a number of "inspectors" be appointed to go the rounds of shops, etc. to mark all American goods, and to exercise a check upon the introduction of further stocks of American commodities into Bangkok.

The local *Times*, of the 8th inst., says:—So far we are not aware that house servants have been withdrawn from any American household in Bangkok, but it is reported that this part of the boycott is seriously meant. We are told that those arranging these matters feel that everything should be done in a legal and orderly manner, and that servants will have to give proper notice; fifteen days is the time mentioned. We must still regard this part of the boycott as purposeless and unnecessary.

It will probably interest the Police Department to learn that Chinese placards bearing the following inscription are posted on Hunan Road:—"Boycott the American Goods. 500,000 coolies went to America; only 150,000 returned. What has become of them?"—*Shanghai Times*.

The Shanghai Taotai yesterday instructed the Shanghai Magistrate, Mr. Wang, to send his runners out to discover the authors of the boycott placards which have been lately posted throughout the Native City and suburbs, and also the men who have been instrumental in posting them. The posting of anonymous placards is illegal in China and the authors if discovered can be punished.—*N. C. D. News*.

CHINESE AND BRITISH STEAMERS.

The Manila *Times* of the 19th inst. states as follows:—

Not content with carrying on a boycott on Americans and American goods in the celestial empire, the Chinese apparently have undertaken to carry on a boycott right here in Manila, on American soil, under the protection of the American flag.

The soldier at this time was stunned. "The Chinese houseboy saw Miss Desbien touch the soldier," left shoulder and then return down the path towards Thomas's. The houseboy walked along, saw the soldier lying down and walked on to Wanchai.

AN IMPRUDENT FACT.

That evidence that he saw the woman stoop down was important because it was borne out by Miss Desbien herself. She said that she touched the man with her foot to rouse him. As she got no answer and in order to know the man who had assaulted her bent down and took off the badge "R. G. A." which he was wearing on his shoulder.

"I attach importance to that fact," said the Attorney-General, and I ask you to remember that it is sworn to by a Chinese witness and admitted by Miss Desbien herself."

The badge was fastened to the shoulder by a pin, which this woman apparently have known how to remove. When the body was found, the "ladder" of the badge was found near him.

AT THE R. A. O. B.

After the incident at Battery Path the two women took richkash and went to the Owl Grillroom, leaving the man prostrate on the ground. It was not quite clear how long they remained at the Owl, but afterwards they went to the Royal Antedulevian Order of Buffaloes, at the corner of Arsenal Street. They roused up somebody to get refreshments. They had been refreshing themselves previously, but not at the experience they had lately passed through. Let them desire another drink. About 1.30 they returned in rickshaws to Thomas's Grillroom, but instead of going into their rooms in the Annex after paying off the rickshaws they went up Battery Path and looked for deceased.

A SIGNIFICANT ACTION.

Now the acts of the prisoner at this time had to be weighed and considered. If it was true there was no apprehension about the condition of the soldier what took these people back to look for? Why, when they came back—about an hour after the incident—from the R. A. O. B. do they go up the Battery Path to see whether the man who got the blow was lying there still? "It is the suggestion of the Crown that the prisoner was aware from the first, that the man was seriously injured," added the Attorney-General. Three soldiers were met coming down the Path. They had seen the deceased lying on the Path, but they thought the man was drunk and took no heed of him. After supper they returned to see the prisoner and two women coming down the Path.

THE MOUTH UNCONSCIOUS.

In the meantime what had happened was this: An Indian police sergeant on patrol shortly after one o'clock in the morning found a gunner of the Royal Garrison Artillery lying on Battery Path. The head was lying in a pool of blood. The sergeant called out to an Indian constable and together they put the deceased in a chair and sent him to the police station, where he arrived at a quarter past one o'clock in the morning. The gunner was taken almost immediately to the Civil Hospital, unconscious. He never recovered consciousness. The Crown said that that unconsciousness existed from the time that he fell on the ground as the result of a blow by the prisoner. Near the spot where the body was found there was a quantity of vomit, one of the usual consequences of cerebral injury. The deceased man vomited at the Police Station and at the hospital. This question of vomit required investigation because on it would be founded the suggestion that the man died only up after he was struck, vomited, walked a little way down the path and then fell on the path, and cracked his skull. The vomit was 24 feet from the place where the body was found.

THE POST MORTEM.

On the day after the man died, on the 19th, a *post mortem* was held by Dr. Bell, who found that the deceased had a severe wound over the left eyebrow, that the skull was badly fractured, immediately under the wound, and extended right round the skull. At the base of the skull behind the wound was a large clot of blood, and it was certain that death was due to a fractured skull. It had been a severe blow that fractured the man's skull.

AN INTERLUDE.

The Attorney-General gave a dramatic description of how the blow which killed the soldier might have been delivered, illustrating it by hitting himself on the face.

Mr. Sharp made a suggestion that the Attorney-General should strike harder.

Amid laughter, the Attorney-General remarked that he would like to have a bout at fist cuffs to show how it all happened.

THE UNKNOWN WITNESS.

Towards the close of the opening statement, which lasted over an hour, the Attorney-General caused a mild sensation by stating that he had a witness whose statement he would not yet disclose, but who would throw an instructive light on the question of the prisoner's innocence. Later on, he said, a witness would be produced from the Owl Grillroom who would say that while there he heard the prisoner say—"He had no business to assault the girl. I gave him one and that was enough for him."

THE EVIDENCE.

Evidence was then led.

An assistant surveyor from the Public Works Department submitted a map of Battery Path.

Major Parry spoke to the character of the deceased.

Mr. Sharp—You say when you visited the hospital you saw no sign of the man having been struck on the mouth. What indication did you expect to find?

Major Parry—At the end of 16 hours I should expect to see the lip swollen.

I am asking you to assume that the man's mouth was open otherwise the prisoner's knuckles would not have been bruised?—I don't see how it is possible to strike the mouth without striking the lips also.

In reply to a question by the Judge, Major Parry said—A man in the evening might take a little more than was good for him, but so long as he behaved himself and went to his bed and annoyed nobody he would not be reported. The deceased's character was "very good."

Sergeant Craig repeated the story he told before.

Mr. Sharp—There is a strong feeling in the Company against this defendant?—Yes, there is a vindictive feeling.

AN HONOURED BREACH.

A soldier comrade of the deceased said he had seen the gunner more than once the worse for drink. On the night of the 16th he had drunk two pints of beer. He was perfectly sober. He had been on police patrol duty when he took the beer.

It is contrary to the rule of the military police to drink on duty?—It is, sir.

Is the practice to do so?—Well, sir, it is the practice.

The Chinese houseboy gave evidence, repeating the main facts which he gave before at the preliminary inquiry. He stated that he was employed at the "Soldiers Club as a private boy.

In cross-examination, he said that when he saw one of the women going up the Path he

Were there any signs of blood on it?—No. You did not stop, you say?—No, I went on and down the stairs and on to Wanchai.

On the day of the funeral he spoke about the matter for the first time. He asked the son of Mr. Blake, "Whose funeral is that?" and the answer was "A soldier who died on Sunday." Then witness said "I saw a man hit a soldier on Sunday."

Is it true you said that?—I did not say so. Weren't these depositions read up to you?—I said I saw a man go over the hill.

Did you say to Mr. Blake's son—"I saw a man hit a soldier on Sunday"?—No.

And as a matter of fact it is not true that you saw a man hit a soldier?—No, I did not.

The Attorney-General—You say you did not see the wound on the soldier's face?—I did not see the wound, but I saw some blood near his face.

FOR THE JURY'S BENEFIT.

A question arose as to the exact position in which the body was lying when seen by the witness. The jury pressed for an exact statement, but all that the witness could say was that it was lying opposite the Charter Bank.

The Attorney-General remarked that if necessary the jury could be taken to Battery Path and the exact spot pointed out to them.

An Indian police sergeant gave evidence as to the finding of the soldier lying on Battery Path. A pipe, a walking stick and a broken box of matches were found near the soldier. The soldier was unable to stand, so they got a chair and carried the unconscious man to the police station. A "ladder" from the soldier's badge was picked up by Sergeant O'Sullivan. It was lying in a pool of blood.

Mr. Sharp—Did you notice whether the soldier smelt of drink or not?

Witness—The man smelt of liquor.

Another Indian witness, a constable, told his story, and said that when he saw the soldier lying on the Path the man's face was smeared with blood. Until his attention had been called to the body lying there he had not noticed anything unusual on Battery Path. The soldier when picked up smelt of liquor.

The Foreman of the Jury—Did the witness hear anyone vomiting there?

The witness—No, I heard no vomiting that night.

Dr. Bell, Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, stated that a gunshot wound of the R.G.A. was brought to the hospital on the 17th July. He was unconscious. He had a wound on the left eyebrow and his skull was fractured. He died that same day at 9 p.m.

Was the fracture a bad fracture in the sense that it required a heavy blow to cause it?—Yes, it was a bad fracture.

Could such a fracture be caused by the blow of a bludgeon?—You mean a hammer blow also?—Everything?—No.

What was the most likely cause to bring about the effect you saw?—The most likely cause would be a fall.

Would it have been caused by falling against the pavement of Battery Path?—Yes, the pavement or the kerb.

By Mr. Sharp—Do you think a man who had received such a blow could rise and walk along Battery Path for any distance?—It is possible, but not probable.

A man is more likely to fall heavily if he is under the influence of drink?—If the drink has affected his legs.

That is to say if the effect has been such that he has previously been reeling along?—Yes, in that case he would fall more heavily.

By a jurymen—Is it possible to get a heavy smack in the mouth without leaving a mark?—No.

Mr. Sharp—If you struck him on the teeth would there be any mark on his mouth?—Not if he struck him on the teeth.

The Attorney-General—He would have to have a big mouth and keep it wide open (laughter).

Sergeant O'Sullivan, after giving the evidence already published, said he examined the vomit in Battery Path. It did not smelt of any spirituous liquor. When the deceased man vomited at the police station, his ejection smelt of beer.

He was asked whether he thought that the smell of spirituous liquor would cling to vomit which had been lying on the ground for an hour before it was discovered. He replied that he thought a great deal of the odour would have evaporated.

By Mr. Sharp—You heard to-day that it was said the deceased man had only one drink at the Praya East Hotel on the 16th inst.—Yes. You knew that was not true?—(No answer.)

You have to get up a case impartially for the Crown yet you allowed that statement to pass?—(No answer.)

The proprietor of the Praya East Hotel told us, Sergeant O'Sullivan, that the man now dead had two drinks, not one, and offered to give evidence on that point?—Yes.

You are not trying to get a conviction against this unhappy man by the suppression of evidence?—I didn't suppress evidence.

In reply to the Attorney-General, the witness said he did not remember it being stated in the Police Court that the deceased had only one drink in the Praya East Hotel. He was not in Court all the time. He had not been questioned on the subject.

Inspector Hanson stated that on the 24th July—seven days after the death of the gunner—he summoned Miss Desbrien and the prisoner to his office. Miss Desbrien admitted that she had been out, but said she arrived home at 11.30 p.m. When asked whether the prisoner was with them Miss Desbrien said—"Oh, it couldn't have been he. He was at home in bed. He had a sprained ankle." The Inspector remarked that he was sorry that prisoner would not help him if he could, but he had no knowledge of the affair. On the 25th of July he arrested the prisoner in the bar of the Hongkong Hotel, and charged him with murder. They sat down at a table, and the detective cautioned his prisoner. The prisoner said:

"I can prove all my actions on that night up till half-past twelve or a little later. I can prove by witnesses I was in the Hongkong Hotel until closing time; and by other witnesses my other actions up till half-past twelve, if not later. I then went to Queen's Road, opposite Yee Wo's and was there until half-past twelve. That is all I wish to say, and then went to the Annex of Thomas's grillroom."

Next day, Mr. Golding with the prisoner came to the witness and said that the prisoner wanted to make a confession. Inspector Hanson referred them to the Captain Superintendent who allowed the confession to be made. Mr. Golding wrote it down and the prisoner signed it.

The Attorney-General then read the confession, which has already been published.

Lillian Desbrien, a young American woman, slim and rather prepossessing, was called. Her evidence generally was a repetition of that given in the Court below. She remarked that when she went up to the prisoner soldier and touched him with her foot he turned round; he said to her—"I am hit, or I am hurt," as she was not sure which. She was wearing a pair of light canvas shoes at the time.

The Attorney-General—Are you sure of that?—Why sure?

The Attorney-General—Be careful.

Questions were put as to the dinner at the Owl. The prisoner, witness and Miss Radcliffe had all dined together at 8 p.m.

What had you for dinner?—I don't remember.

The Attorney-General—Why sure?

The Attorney-General—Be careful.

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What had you for dinner?—I don't remember.

The Attorney-General—Why sure?

The Attorney-General—Be careful.

Try to remember—was it sausage?—(laughter)—witness (with a laugh)—Oh, no. Had you any of those mixed up, chopped meat arrangements?—I couldn't tell.

Had you any ham?—I really couldn't say. Coming to the question, why the three went up Battery Path an hour after the assault, the Attorney-General asked:

Why did you go to look for the soldier?—We went to see if he was there.

What would you have done if he had been there?—We went to help him. We thought he was drunk.

You weren't frightened?—Not at all.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

24th inst.

The Criminal Sessions was again crowded to-day with an interested audience when the case of Aaron Ellis, who is being tried on a charge of the manslaughter of a soldier named Richard Sampson, gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery, was resumed. All the soldiers off duty seemed to be in Court, and several had been waiting admission long before the Court opened. So few was the number of natives present that the appearance of the audience suggested a Court-house in England rather than a British Court in China. The prisoner, albeit a trifle pale and careworn, held himself stoutly, and took his chair in the dock with much assurance, even sang *fragments*. Many of his friends and acquaintances who attended the trial gave him encouraging nods, and the jauntiness of his counsel lent colour to the opinion that the prospects of the accused in the issue were at least hopeful. The Chief Justice, Sir Francis Pigott, took his seat shortly after ten o'clock.

Counsel were at the bar some time previously. The Attorney-General, Sir Henry Berkeley, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Howley, appeared for the Crown; Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring, represented the defendant.

EVIDENCE.

A HOSTILE WITNESS.

The Chief Justice (at the outset) said that there was one question on which he wished to obtain information. He presumed that the learned Attorney-General looked upon Miss Desbrien as a hostile witness.

The Attorney-General—Of course, she would be.

The Chief Justice—It is well that the jury should know.

THE RUSSIAN WAITER'S STORY.

Constantine Burmakine, a waiter at the Owl Grillroom, was called.

Major Sexton, in charge of the Russian Camp here, was sworn in as interpreter.

The Russian gave evidence regarding the visits of the prisoner and the two women to the Owl Grillroom on the night of the 16th July. They were at the Grillroom until about half-past eleven at night. The two women left, but the man remained behind. The Grillroom closed at midnight. After that hour, the prisoner and the two women returned to the Grillroom, about 1 a.m.

HER MOUTH CUT.

Did you notice if there was anything the matter with the face of either of the two girls?—On the bigger of the two girls I noticed a cut on the lip and she said she was hurt.

Did you see the character of the cut?—No. She held her handkerchief to her lips.

Did you see blood?—Yes, I saw blood on her handkerchief.

Was there anybody else in the Grillroom besides yourself and the three visitors?—Mr. and Mrs. Slater and a boy.

Did you hear anything said by the prisoner, Ellis, after he came in?—Yes, I did.

What did you hear?—He said—"I gave it to him one time and that was enough." Then he said to the girls "Let us go."

Did they go?—Yes, they went off together. When did you next see Mr. Ellis?—In the morning of the next day.

Where?—In the Owl Grillroom.

Did you see Ellis speaking to anybody?—He was talking with Madam Slater.

What did you hear him say?—He told her not to say anything about what had happened the previous day.

ADVISE FROM A FRIEND.

Mrs. Slater make any reply?—She answered—"I will leave the Colony next month."

What did she say?—She said "You should leave the Colony next day."

Ellis make any reply?—No, he didn't answer.

Are you still in the employment of the Owl Grillroom?—No.

When did you leave?—I wasn't employed as a workman there.

You were a waiter there on the 16th July weren't you?—No.

What were you doing there then?—I was only sitting at the table eating.

You used to sleep there, didn't you?—I slept where Slater and everybody else slept.

In the same house?—No, in the next house.

A WILLING BOARDER.

You boarded with them and gave them assistance?—Yes, I boarded and gave my services. Witness said that Mrs. Slater was an Austrian Jew.

When Mrs. Slater and the prisoner spoke together what language did they use?—Mostly English.

Any other language?—At that moment they only spoke in English.

And the girls?—They only spoke in English.

Do you understand English?—Yes, just a little.

RUSSIAN-ENGLISH.

Can you repeat in English what was said?—The witness in broken English and waving his fist said—"I have given you blow, von goot von."

The Chief Justice—Why does he gesticulate with his fist?

The Witness—The prisoner said it like that. In cross-examination by Mr. Sharp, the witness said that all the party was at the Owl Grill until about 10.30 p.m. He himself arrived there an hour before.

What had you been doing that evening?—I was giving a conjuring performance at the Russian camp at Kowloon.

Do you know a man called Peachley who is employed as a waiter at that Owl Grillroom?—I know him. He was at that time a waiter at the Owl. He helped me in the conjuring performance, but he did not return to the Owl that evening.

You returned from Kowloon together?—Yes, but we parted at the Hongkong landing-stage.

SUPPER AT THE OWL.

Now, be very careful. Isn't it a fact that you didn't arrive at the Owl till about 10.30, stayed there one hour, and then went to bed?—No.

Think carefully. Is it not the fact that you had supper and went home to bed before closing time?—I had supper, I paid for it next day. I went home about two minutes after closing.

And you didn't come back to the Owl again?—I didn't return.

What time does the Owl close?—It closes at 12, but what with cleaning dishes and washing up it is nearly one before we get home.

Did you do the cleaning that night?—No.

Then what time did you go to bed?—A few minutes after one a.m.

DEADLY AD LIB.

I put it to you that you have several times admitted to Peachley and also in your own language that you were only there for one hour from 10.30 to 11.30 and that you never saw any of these people because you had gone to bed?—Not true.

And that it is not the case that Mrs. Slater told Ellis to leave the Colony and that he admitted that what he has said to-day is untrue?—I deny it altogether.

Is it true that on one occasion you admitted in Yiddish, through an interpreter, that your story was untrue?—Mr. Peachley doesn't understand Yiddish at all.

A YIDDISH CONVERSATION.

Do you deny that you spoke in Yiddish through an interpreter?—The prisoner through an interpreter asked me how I would speak at the trial.

Where did you spend last night?—In the Main Hotel.

Where did you sleep last night?—In the Main Hotel.

By the Attorney-General—What is the name of the prisoner's emissary who asked what you would say at the trial?—I don't know his name; it was the first time I ever saw him.

What nationality was he?—I don't know.

What language did you use in speaking to him?—Yiddish.

When did this conversation take place?—Three days ago.

MET IN AN EATING-HOUSE.

Tell us the circumstances of this meeting?—It was in an eating-house—I can't remember the name. I met him by chance. The man beckoned to me to come to him and I went.

What happened?—He asked me in English—"I can't tell you in English what he said, but I understood what he meant."

The Attorney-General—My Lord, and gentlemen of the jury, that is the case for the prosecution.

THE DEFENCE.

Mr. Sharp, K.C., then opened the case for the defence. At the outset he remarked that he did not think that it was necessary to explain to the jury the nature of the defence because they must have found that out for themselves while the evidence for the prosecution was being led. He would just tell them some of the points which he would set forth. He would submit to the jury that the prosecution had failed to prove what, in order to succeed, it must prove—that the injury of which the accused died was inflicted by what that was quite well—that that injury was inflicted by the defendant. That was what the prosecution had to prove, and he would argue before the jury at some length afterwards that it had not failed to establish that proof.

Fortunately there was no question as to the cause of death. The deceased died from an injury inflicted upon the left-hand side of the head, and it was only that one injury they had to consider. He would submit to them by the evidence, very largely, which they had already heard, supported, of course, by the further evidence he would submit to them, that it was clear the man who died was under the influence of liquor. What apparently happened was that the deceased fell, got up again, proceeded some distance up the Path, fell a second time and sustained the injury which caused his death. They had to deal with probabilities, so they might take it that the vital injury was caused where the man was found dead. It was perfectly clear that what happened, happened within sight of the Hongkong Bank, but the policeman there said he saw nothing until he was called to look at the man lying on the ground. There was a minor point he had to refer to in connection with the probabilities of the case. It seemed likely that this second and fatal fall occurred when the man was trying to light his pipe. Nobody saw it. But they found the man lying at what the police described as about the lightest portion of the whole Path. That was the place a man would select for such an operation as lighting his pipe. They found him with a half-charged pipe. They all know the habits of men of that class who carried half-charged pipes and lighted them about half a dozen times before re-charging them. In all probability the soldier was endeavouring to light his pipe. There was a match box crushed under his hand and a large number of matches, not crushed, lying around. The soldier hadn't his pipe in his hand when he was with the two girls. There was a case of reasonable doubt here, and if there was a reasonable doubt the defendant, as his Lordship would tell them, was entitled to the benefit of it. There were several points which he would deal with more fully when he had submitted the evidence of the witnesses for the defence.

THE BAR MANAGER'S STORY.

Kenneth Gaskell was the first witness called. He said he was now proprietor of the Owl Grillroom. On the 16th July he was manager of the "Hongkong" and he remembered that night. The prisoner was there certainly at half-past eleven. He said "good-bye" to witness at closing time, at midnight. He saw prisoner again outside the Grill. Since the passage of the Owl had been closed, they had to go down Pedder Street to reach the Hotel. He saw the defendant with a number of people in Des Vaux Road. He spoke to defendant—that would be about 12.30—and eventually walked up to Queen's Road. They parted beside the Clock Tower, just at half-past twelve. He did not see the defendant again.

Was he at all under the influence of drink?—Certainly not, so far as I could see.

The Attorney-General—No questions.

Leonardo d'Almada e Castro was the next subpoenaed witness. He said he was clerk to Mr. Bruton. On the 16th July he had been at a dinner party at Kowloon side with his family. Blake Pier was reached between 12.20 and 12.30. Chairs were taken and they went along Queen's Road and up Battery Path. Near Thomas's Hotel, he saw two rickshas rushing out of Ice House Street from the direction of the sea. They were occupied by two ladies. He recognised one of them as he passed by—Miss Desbrien who used to come to his office, being a client of the firm in which he was engaged. He did not know the other. The rickshas stopped by the big tree in Ice House Street.

"My chair passed by them and I saw a soldier hanging on to the splash-board in which Miss Desbrien was seated.

Did you get out?—I had no occasion to.

Did you form any impression whether the man was sober or drunk? I couldn't say, but I concluded more or less from his attitude that he was drunk.

The Attorney-General—You are in the office of the solicitor who is conducting the defence?—Yes, I am with Mr. Bruton.

You read the newspapers, don't you?—Yes. You mean to say you read that a man was found dead in Battery Path and you didn't connect the two circumstances?—No, I did not.

Did you know somebody was suspected of causing the death of this man?—I didn't know.

The Attorney-General—You should possess the art of putting two and two together before you finish your articles if you are to be a solicitor.

Witness—After what I saw I never paid any heed to the matter.

How do you remember so particularly now?—On the Saturday when the man was charged at the Police Court.

Why didn't you mention it to the police? You saw a soldier and two women?—Yes.

And next day you knew a soldier had been killed?—Yes.

And the soldier and the two women were at Battery Path?—How was I to connect that with the death?

At the time you knew Miss Desbrien as a client?—Yes. I didn't know her personally. I am not speaking about knowing her personally or anything of that sort—I had nothing to do with her.

You knew her as a client. Is that why you wished to screen the matter?—I am not trying to screen her at all.

Your duty as a citizen was to tell the police? If you allow me to explain—

That is the fourth time you've said that. Go on. Witness went on to explain how he became acquainted with the facts of the case.

You only found it out by the papers that your master was engaged in such a case?—Yes.

Your attention is solely directed to reading law?—No, not that; but I have nothing to do with Mr. Goldring's cases.

HONGKONG CLUB STEWARD.

John Quinn, steward at the Hongkong Club, said on the evening of the 16th inst. he was in the Hongkong Club playing billiards. The defendant came and spoke to him and the friend with whom he was playing. The defendant spoke to him first about 10.30. From that time he saw the defendant off and on until closing time. If the defendant went to the Owl during that time it would have been for a very short time.

Not for an hour? I don't think it possible. Or half an hour?—Hardly possible.

The Attorney-General—The Owl Grillroom is about two minutes' walk from the Hongkong Hotel?—That is so.

A WAITER'S EVIDENCE.

Cecil Peachley, waiter at the Silver Grill, said on the 16th July he was at the Owl and went on duty at 9.30 p.m. When he came on duty, Miss Desbrien and Mrs. Slater went out. They went to the Metropole Hotel. Neither Miss Radcliffe nor the defendant was there when he entered. Miss Desbrien and Mrs. Slater returned about eleven o'clock. He saw the Russian Burmakine there. He had been assisting the Russian at a conjuring performance. The Russian came in about 10.30; he had supper and one brandy. He stayed an hour and then left. He went away about 11.30 or a little after. He did not re-appear that night.

In what condition was he?—He was intoxicated, drunk.

You saw Miss Desbrien and Mrs. Slater returned about 11?—Yes.

AT THE SILVER GRILL.

And Miss Radcliffe—she also came in. They all went away before twelve. The defendant had not been in the Owl up till then. They closed up the premises at 12 o'clock, made up the accounts and when they got alongside the Silver Grillroom a little way up, they met the defendant and two ladies in rickshas and the defendant asked Mr. Slater if he had anything to rub his hand with because it was cut. Mr. Slater said he had nothing but spirits. They went back to the Owl. Mr. Slater brought out some brandy and the hand was rubbed. The ladies were in the rickshas. He did not speak to Miss Desbrien, but he said her mouth was a little swollen, she said a soldier had struck her. The defendant was not at the Owl at all on the following day.

Are you aware of the evidence of Burmakine in this case?—A little.

What did you think of it?—I consider it false. Burmakine has admitted to me more than once that the evidence he gave before the magistrate was not true.

AN ILLUSIONIST.

By the Attorney-General—He had been assisting the Russian at the Camp in conjuring. What was he doing?—He called himself an illusionist.

Is he a clever man?—No, sir; not a clever man at all (laughter).

And that is why he took you with him?—I suppose so (laughter).

Did he amuse the audience?—I don't think so (laughter).

Why not?—He wasn't half skilful enough. Not half so skilful as you?—No.

Why didn't you do the tricks for him?—I couldn't do them (laughter).

NOT ANOTHER ILLUSION.

Has he any money? He says he hasn't any, but he had some when he had been with the Russians.

That's one of your illusions?—I'm not an illusionist (laughter).

Who's the illusionist then?—He calls himself an illusionist, but I don't think much of his illusions (great laughter).

Perhaps that may be another illusion (laughter).

Why did he come and tell you that he was a perjurer?—I don't know.

But he did tell you?—Yes, he told me and Mrs. Slater.

You require just two witnesses for perjury. Where is Mrs. Slater?—At the Owl Grill.

Having lunch I suppose?—Oh, no. It isn't lunch time yet.

NOT A LINGUIST.

You don't speak English or Yiddish?—No. You only speak English?—Yes.

Just like myself. How did you understand what the Russian said?—He spoke broken English.

Badly broken, I should say (laughter).

By Mr. Sharp—You did all your conjuring work with him in English?—Yes.

He spoke English?—Not very well.

"Did you make him understand you?—Yes, clearly."

T. Moses gave evidence as to having spoken in Yiddish with the Russian and corroborated what has been said already on this point.

A PUBLICAN'S STORY.

F. Oram, proprietor of the Praya East Hotel said he knew Gunner Sampson.

Do you recollect if he was in your Hotel the night he died?—Yes.

Was he there more than once?—Yes, twice.

When was the first time?—About 8 or 9 o'clock. It was early in the evening. I wouldn't be sure about the time.

What did the deceased have?—A beer.

As to the second time?—He came in alone. What time was that?—Between 11 and 11.30. And he had?—Beer.

He was patrolling up and down in front of your Hotel?—Yes.

Did you see him again after that?—I saw him at 10 minutes to 12.

A FAVOUR.

What happened then?—He asked me to lend him \$2 as a favour, which I did.

What form did you give him the money?—Twenty-cent pieces.

Did you tell the police this?—Yes. I couldn't give the name of the policeman.

The Chief Justice—Did they come and ask you?—Yes, I gave them this information, but they never came for me.

By the Attorney-General—At 11.50 p.m. Sampson was absolutely sober.

MISS RADCLIFFE IN THE DOX.

Miss Radcliffe was called, and stated that she lived in Thomas's annex. She related the story of what she did on the evening of the 16th July. She dined with Miss Desbrien and Mr.

Ellis. She had an appointment to meet Miss Desbrien and Mrs. Slater at the Metropole Hotel. There was no special time mentioned and when she went down there she found they had been and gone. She went to the Owl Grillroom and left a little before 12 with Miss Desbrien. She had not seen the defendant at the Owl. They took a drive in a ricksha to Wanchai, somewhere about Arsenal Street and returned. They followed the car track and came up Ice House Street, instead of coming down Queen's Road. She was in front. Miss Desbrien called her name and she turned round and saw a soldier holding the shafts of the ricksha. The soldier struck Miss Desbrien on the mouth. The soldier went away along Battery Path.

SOLDIER SKEWED DRUNK.

Tell us how he was walking?—He was walking slowly, but he was staggering as if he were intoxicated.

Just then the defendant came up, but from what direction he came she could not tell. Miss Desbrien was crying and said "Look at me. A soldier struck me." Ellis said—"Where is he, and Miss Desbrien showed him. Then witness said to Ellis—"Get him or fetch him, and Ellis said "I'll fetch him" and went off to fetch him. They both got out of the rickshas. Miss Desbrien fell, and she was helping Miss Desbrien to rise when the defendant came back. When Ellis came back they said "Where is he, meaning the soldier, and Ellis said "Up there." Miss Desbrien said—"Come on; let's go and see him." She and the witness went up the Path. The defendant stood at the foot of the Path holding a little dog.

ON BATTERY PATH.

Did you see the soldier?—Yes.

Where?—Right under the gas light.

On the ground?—Yes.

Which gas lamp was that?—The first one. Quite sure of that?—Quite.

You looked at him?—Yes.

See his face?—Yes I saw it clearly because the light was shining on it.

Was there any mark on his face?—No, sir; there was not.

Did you form any opinion—whether he was injured or only drunk?—I thought he was drunk.

Miss Desbrien touched him with her shoe; he turned over, and said something but what it was she could not hear. Miss Desbrien took the badge off his sleeve. Afterwards they took rickshas from the bottom of the Path. She turned round, saw the soldier lying on the Path.

A SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT.

Did he move?—Yes, I saw him move.

Did he rise?—I thought he was going to get up.

But you saw him more?—Yes.

Proceeding, witness said they went as far as the Silver Grillroom and met Mr. and Mrs. Slater. Mr. Ellis got out of his ricksha and showed it to Mr. Slater, and the end was that the Owl was opened again some brandy got for the knuckles. They got back eventually to Thomas's Grillroom. They went back up the Path.

What did you see?—Nothing of the soldier where he had been before. Miss Desbrien said "Let's go up the other way."

A POOL OF BLOOD.

What did you do?—We went further up and there we saw a pool of blood.

What sort of distance was it up?—Quite a good distance.

It was still on the Battery Path?—Yes, sir.

When you saw this distressing sight what did you do?—Turned round.

And then?—Went home.

Who had charge of the dog before you went up the hill?—I did.

Did Miss Desbrien have charge of it at all?—No.

Why did you say nothing about this affair?—Because he asked me to say nothing on account of his people.

When you went up the Path the second time was it because you were anxious lest he had been injured?—Not at all.

In cross-examination by the Attorney-General, the witness said that she was at that time living with Ellis as his wife and was doing so still. She had told an untruth to the police. She only went up Battery Path out of curiosity.

What were you curious about?—We could see from the bottom of the Path that he was not there.

Witness admitted that to go up Battery Path she would have had to go three-quarters of a mile out of her path. What led her to take the longest way round to go home? Witness replied that Miss Desbrien suggested it.

IT WASN'T SHE.

When you saw the pool of blood you turned back?—Yes.

What made you turn back. Did it terrify you?—No, it was somebody suggested it.

You didn't see the place where somebody had been sick?—No.

Was it you yourself who was sick?—No, sir.

The sight of blood did not make you sick?—No, sir.

But you turned back?—Yes.

When the soldier slapped Miss Desbrien he used the back of his hand. The Attorney-General pressed the witness on the point that she had ever previously said she had seen the man move. She swore that she had said so before.

Mr. Sharp pointed out that Miss Radcliffe had never been called before the Police Magistrate. The witness, in answer to Mr. Sharp, said she had never seen any Chinese by there at the time. There was plenty of light there at the time and if there had been a boy there she would have seen him.

The Attorney-General—Why did you leave the dog behind when you went up the Path? Because you were afraid it would lap?—No.

The Chief Justice—What made Miss Desbrien fall?—She stumbled.

A Jurymen—Has Miss Radcliffe received any suggestions as to what evidence she should give?—No, sir.

NO PROMPTER.

The Attorney-General—Has anyone prompted you?—No, sir.

Another Jurymen—Which ditch was it that Miss Desbrien fell over?—The one going to the left, right at the foot of the Path.

The case for the defence was closed.

Mr. Sharp, addressing the jury, said he had little to add beyond what he had said in his opening and to recapitulate what had been given in the evidence was a waste of time. But he would direct their attention to the principal points and the principles on which they should found their decision. The most important principle was the presumption of evidence and that principle was the principle of reasonable doubt. He quoted Taylor on this subject, and said that if on the evidence it was reasonably possible that the deceased's first fall did not occasion the fatal injury and that the deceased rose and walked on, then the proper application of that principle was that the prisoner should get the benefit of the doubt. The two things most clearly shown was that this man was under the influence of drink and that was most colourably established and that he moved after his first fall. Regarding the evidence, they must believe that the evidence given was substantially truthful. But there was naturally a strong bias among deceased's comrades against the defendant. Nevertheless, some of them admitted, had to admit that deceased was addicted to drink and his companion of that night tried to shelter his

comrade. It was significant also that the one record against the soldier was for drunkenness—a trumpery one; it was true, but still it was significant. Counsel proceeded to describe the doings of the soldier throughout the day. Mr. Sharp said that it was a safe thing to do if they wanted to prove that a man was under the influence of drink, ask the publican who served him with drink. He borrowed \$2 from the publican at 11.50. At 12.35 he had 80 cents in his pocket. What became of the \$1.30 at that hour? The extent to which drink could be got at all hours of night in this place was no doubt well known. It may have been that he had more money in his pocket, but at any rate he had lost \$1.25 and no one could say what had become of that money. At 11.50 he was sober, still "perfectly sober" as the publican said; but he got rid of that extra money, besides whatever else he might have had in his pocket when he started out to spend the \$1.25. The

1. Did the death of Gunner Sampson result from a fall on Battery Path causing a fracture of the skull?

2. With what intent did the prisoner pursue the deceased on the Path?

(a) If to remonstrate, or otherwise deal peacefully with him, and the deceased mistaking his intention struck at him, and the prisoner really struck him or blows as a party and in self-defence that could be excusable homicide and you will acquit the prisoner.

(b) If to punish him for alleged assault on the woman Deshon, and if the death resulted from the punishment, then the prisoner committed a wrongful act, if he carried out his intention or so nearly carried it out that the deceased acted in self-defence, that would be very near the borderline between murder and manslaughter; but you will consider this case to be manslaughter.

If your finding is in accordance with (b) before you can determine the question of guilt there are certain other considerations to be taken into account.

(c) If the deed was done in consequence of the prisoner's blow, and in falling knocked his head against the pavement or the kerb, and died from the effects of the blow, you will find the prisoner guilty.

(d) If you think that he fell as he swung round in delivering his own blow in self-defence, then the fall is so connected with the prisoner's original wrongful act that you must find a prisoner guilty.

(e) If you should be of opinion that the deceased was much or little under the influence of drink you must still find the prisoner guilty.

(f) But if you believe that the deceased fell from sheer inability to stand upright, and not in any way as the result of the blow then you will acquit the prisoner.

Again, you must look at what happened from another point of view and consider whether the deceased fell from the blow, that he was not sufficiently hurt to prevent his getting up again, that he got up again and moved on, and that he afterwards fell and fractured his skull, then

(g) If this fall was due entirely to inability to stand up right from drink you will acquit the prisoner.

But (h) if you think that the fall was due to the after-effects of the blow acting either independently or in connection with the effects of drink you will find the prisoner guilty.

The jury retired at 5.30 p.m.

QUESTIONS BY THE JURY.

At ten minutes past six the jury returned, and before the Acting-Registrar, Mr. Lee-Jones, had time to say a word, the Foreman rose:

"The jury would like to know," he said, "whether you are bound to decide between those two sentences?"

The Chief Justice said—These were paragraphs by which I wanted to indicate to you the fundamental difference between crime and no crime independently of the minor facts—simply that you might determine whether the original act was a wrongful one or not.

The Foreman turned to his colleagues and conferred with them for a few seconds. Then he nodded to the Acting-Registrar who rose and asked—"Are you agreed upon your verdict?" The reply was, "We are." "Are you unanimous?" "We are."

THE VERDICT.

Do you find the prisoner guilty or not guilty?—Guilty.

There was a stir in Court. From the faces of the jurymen it had been felt that the verdict was against the prisoner, but it was a shock nevertheless after the long strain.

The Foreman—I would like to add a rider: "We find the prisoner guilty under paragraphs (b) and (c), but we consider that there was provocation."

As an after-thought, and in response to a nudge from another jurymen, the Foreman added—"The rider was adopted by a majority of six to one."

MAGNANIMITY.

The Attorney-General rose immediately. Permit me, he said, to suggest that, in all the circumstances, if your Lordship can see your way, in addition to any punishment you may think it fitting to impose, to add the alternative of a fine.

The Chief Justice—Have I the power to do so?

A host of authorities were immediately forthcoming, and it seemed that it was in the Judge's discretion to grant the option of a fine. The Chief Justice—Is there any member of the jury who can indicate the destination of the fine? The Attorney-General—I am afraid not. It must go to the Crown.

The Chief Justice—Have I the power to indicate where the fine should go?

The Attorney-General—I am afraid not.

The prisoner was told to stand up.

THE SENTENCE.

The Chief Justice said—Aaron Ellis, after a very patient trial, you have been found guilty. I have listened to what you have said in your own defence. It is suggested that you should be mercifully dealt with and the learned Attorney-General has seconded that suggestion. Therefore, under the powers conferred upon me, I propose to fine you \$500.

There was a buzz of excitement in Court which was calmed immediately.

The Attorney-General—You must add an alternative, my Lord, otherwise if the fine was not paid the prisoner might linger on in prison indefinitely.

The Chief Justice—What would you suggest?

The Attorney-General—Six months' imprisonment.

The Chief Justice—Then the sentence of the Court is that you be fined \$500, or in default six months' imprisonment. I would also suggest that some consideration should be paid to the family of the deceased.

The Court-room was deserted in ten seconds. There was no demonstration whatever. The large crowd in the street melted away like snow in the sun.

The fine was paid.

NAVAL NOTES.

[From Our Correspondent]

Wei-hai-wei, August 14th.

Another great change in the fleet will shortly take place. It is rumored that H.M.S. *Boadicea* will commission as flagship for the China station and the cruisers *Hogue* and *Suffey* will leave at an early date to join the Home Fleet.

Although the *Admiral*, during her short stay here, has proved herself very useful as a repair ship for the destroyers it is believed on account of her slow steaming power that she also will return to England.

Admiral Noel is expected to return tomorrow in the *Alacrity* from a cruise north accompanied by the *Hyacinth*.

A COALING RECORD.

During the coaling of the fleet last week, the competition to secure first place was very keen. Commencing at 5 a.m. H.M.S. *Andromeda* took in over 600 tons in 3 hours 20 minutes. This is a record for this class of cruiser coaling from a collier, the average ton per hour being 17.16 tons.

PROPERTY SALE.

24th inst.

By order of the Supreme Court Mr. Geo. P. Lamont, auctioneer, put up for sale by public auction this afternoon the leasehold property known as 83, Wellington Street, together with the building there on held for the residue of the term of 75 years and of the further term of 924 years commencing on the 26th day of June, 1843. There was a fair attendance of property owners, and bidding commenced at \$8,000 (being by \$50 bid to \$5,000, at which figure it was knocked down to Mr. Chan Ping, the present tenant.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISE IN KWANGTUNG.

The Viceroy and Governor of Kwangtung wires to the Wai Wai pu protesting against the grant of a concession of Kwangchow-Kowloon line to any foreign syndicate. The Viceroy says that the Liangkwan provinces must find the money themselves and can not afford to let the line go to the hands of foreigners. The wealthy merchants of Hsinmingshan, Kwangtung, have successfully raised 115,400,000 for railway enterprise in their province. in Wan-pao.

TIENTSIN-CHINKIANG RAILWAY.

In our issue of Tuesday we printed a "special" from our Shanghai correspondent in reference to the Chinese opposition to the Tientsin-Chinkiang Railway agreement. The following English telegram, in the *N. C. D. News*, amplifies our own wire.

The Chinese Government is borrowing a further sum of 12,700,000 francs (£508,000) from Belgian capitalists, for railway extension, and the agreement has been signed. With regard to the agreement for the Tientsin-Chinkiang Railway, drafted by Great Britain and Germany, the Waiwupu, in accordance with the petition of the people of Shantung province, has communicated to the British Minister its desire to cancel the agreement, to which the British Minister replied that that was impossible, while the German Minister, after telegraphing urgently to his own Government is doing his best, through the Governor of Tientsin, to suppress the opposition in Shantung.

AN OIL STEAMER ON FIRE.

THREE MEN INJURED.

The Dutch Petroleum Company's new steamer *Perlek* (1,087 tons net), which had just arrived at Woussong on her first voyage up from Sumatra, caught fire at her anchorage off Bush Island about 11.30 on Saturday morning (24th inst.). The flames completely got the better of the officers and crew, who seemed to despair of preventing her from becoming a total wreck, though the pilot, Mr. Armstrong, worked hard to save ship and cargo. Captain Carlson, the steamer Master, was early on board, and worked incessantly for 24 hours to save the vessel from sinking in mid-channel, which she threatened more than once to do. A tugboat was sent to Shanghai, and about 0.30 p.m. the fire flared with eight men belonging to the Mith-long and Hongkew Companies went down to Woussong; some of the Dutch men followed later. The fire was in the foremast hold of the vessel, which was full of benzine in tins, and blazing fiercely, frequent explosions taking place and rendering the work of the firemen very difficult and dangerous. As it was the benzine was doomed from the beginning and efforts had to be mainly directed to checking the flames at that end, as far as possible and saving the hull and the rest of the cargo, consisting of cargo oil in bulk, which was separated from the benzine by a double bulkhead filled with water.

As the result of one of the explosions three firemen were rather badly injured and had to be brought up to the Shanghai General Hospital for treatment. Messrs. W. E. Keay, Weinberg, and J. C. Beckhoff were serving steams near a hatch when the explosion took place below and they had the worst of it. It carried them off their feet and they sustained nasty burns about the face, but luckily no bones were broken and they should be about again, not much the worse, in a few days. Less fortunate was a Chinese, who was blown up by an explosion, and fell through a hatch into the furnace beneath. In a few seconds nothing remained of the poor fellow. Another Chinese who went to the forepeak to pay out chain was never seen again. One of the foreign engineers of the ship was severely burnt and was removed to hospital at Shanghai.

To add to the difficulties of the situation, the flames were practically under way when the *Perlek* began to drift. She travelled safely between two steamers, and a tug which was standing by was eventually able to secure her and tow her closer in. Before midnight the fire was extinguished, and, thanks entirely to the efforts of the Fire Brigade, the vessel herself and the oil in bulk are saved.

According to the latest news, the vessel was pumped out and ready to come up to Shanghai.

During Saturday night the Fire Brigade was called out to another blaze in French town, off the Rue du Consulat Extension. The outbreak was in a Chinese house, standing by itself, and it was quickly got under. All the Companies attended, but three streams only were required, the rain also assisting.—*N. C. D. News*.

CHU KWHI IN TROUBLE.

HONGKONG INTERPRETER

Writing from Canton on the 5th inst., the correspondent of the *N. C. D. News* states:—For some time past the Viceroy here has had his eye on a man of advanced years named Chu Kwei. The unfortunate fellow is only thirty-three years of age, but he has seen a good deal of life. He went to Honolulu at the age of eighteen, and spent some eight years there and learnt English well. Then he lived at different times in Japan, in Hongkong, and in Macao. Lately he has been teaching a school—rather in one of the new colleges about which I wrote last time—in Heungshan. There is no doubt that he is a man of advanced years, and there are whispers that he is hand in glove with Kang Yu-wei. When the coolie traffic was at its height in Hongkong, he was employed by one of the firms as interpreter. It is obvious therefore that Chu is not one of the common crowd. He has for some reason or other incurred the suspicions of the Viceroy, who has charged him with sympathizing with the rebels in Kwangsi, and supplying them with weapons. This charge he indignantly denies. However, he has been arrested. When he was brought before the magistrate, he refused to kneel and wished to raise his hat, as foreigners do instead, seeing that he had eschewed the native costume for European clothes. But such request was scornfully denied him, as was to be expected, for just then the officials were in no mood to grant him these privileges. He was forced to kneel upon the ground. He is

now lodged in the Namhoi's prison, and probably the chances of acquittal are precarious. There seemed to be no evidence that he was implicated in the Kwangsi rebellion, but there is evidence that he has been a restless man, and that he is in sympathy with reform, and this will probably lead to his execution.

EXPERIENCE OF THE "KISHIO."

THE RUSSIAN DESTROYER'S ATTACK.

The purser of the steamer *Sorya*, which arrived at Meiji on the 12th instant from North Korea, gives the following account of the experience of the steamer *Kishio*, which, it will be remembered, was recently attacked by a Russian destroyer and had a narrow escape:—

Shortly before 5 o'clock on the morning of the 4th instant, the steamer *Kishio* was approaching a north Korea port, when a Russian destroyer suddenly appeared and opened a heavy fire. The steamer could do nothing in defence, and all on board, believing that they would be taken prisoner, decided to change their clothes and donned their best. In a short while, the steamer was struck by ten shots, in the upper part of the engine room, the funnel, and the upper deck. The Captain was killed, his body being carried away by a shell and seen no more; the chief steward and a saloon boy, who were changing their clothes beside the Captain, were also hit and their bodies torn to pieces. The projectile which killed the Captain shattered the bridge, while others went through the vessel's hull, but none hit the engine room and the steamer escaped sinking and safely reached port. The object of the Russian destroyer in venturing out is thought to have been to find a place for landing troops in the vicinity of Ussuriysk. Although the *Kishio* suffered extensive damage from the Russian fire, her steaming capacity was in no way interfered with, and she at once returned to Gossan.—*Japan Chronicle*.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF SAGHALIEN.

STRINGENT REGULATIONS.

Regulations to be observed by vessels and travellers visiting Saghalien have been issued by the War Office. The regulations consist of eight articles, which state that for the present the port of Korskavsk only will be opened to vessels visiting the northern ports of the island, exception being made in regard to vessels that have obtained special permission from the Minister for War or the military authorities administering the island. Only Japanese vessels will be allowed to enter the ports of Saghalien, and no foreigners will be allowed to land in the island, unless they have special passports from the Minister for War or the military authorities in Saghalien. In the case of Japanese, those who are under the ban of the Law of Admonition will be allowed to land, or have no fixed occupation, will not be allowed to land. All vessels entering the ports of Saghalien and persons landing on the island must abide by the regulations and orders issued by the military authorities, who are empowered to stop the entry into all ports of vessels, the landing of visitors, or to detain or order away vessels or persons from the island, when such course is deemed necessary.—*Japan Chronicle*.

WEI-HAI-WEI SCHOOL.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

The success of most functions depends to a great extent on the weather, and the third annual prize distribution at this school on Friday, 28th of July, was held under ideal circumstances. In the unavoidable absence of Sir Gerard Noel, Captain R. N. Ommanney, H.M.S. *Andromeda*, took the chair and distributed the prizes. Swimming races, of which visitors had a good view from the school front, followed the more important function in the school-room, which had been tastefully decorated with flags and standards kindly lent for the occasion by the Army Service Corps department of the 1st Chinese Regiment. The Commissioner, Lady Buxton, Mr. and Mrs. Barton, of Tientsin and Bishop Sliff. There were also present Captain Hamilton, H.M.S. *Hogue*, Captain Shaw, H.M.S. *Diadem*, Commander and Mrs. A. G. Walker, Rev. and Mrs. F. P. Rev. and Mrs. P. Richards, Rev. F. Wain, Lieutenant and Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Shand, Dr. and Mrs. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Swan, Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey, Mr. Platt, Mrs. Gordin, Mr. Smart, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Matheson, Mrs. Larkins, Mrs. Hickin, Mrs. Matheson, Miss Macrae, Miss Blomfield, Miss Parkhill, Miss Warr, Miss Gresham, Messrs. R. F. Johnston, District Magistrate G. P. Andrews, R.N., E. Carpmel and R. H. Elias.

The Headmaster said—Captain Ommanney, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Commander-in-Chief had promised to take the chair on this occasion if able to do so, but left yesterday for Chemulpo. He has kindly asked Captain Ommanney to take his place, and I assure you, Sir, that we feel greatly honoured in having the Senior Captain to preside to-day. For many reasons it would be more desirable to have "Prize Day" at the end of the year, but we have an unfortunate experience last year, when visitors were prevented from coming by unusually severe weather. This and the comparatively small resident population of Wei-hai-wei in winter have decided us to fix the distribution for the end of the summer term. Apart from the school our audience last year was very small. May we hope that your presence in such numbers to-day is—in part—an indication of goodwill and friendly interest in the school? The school was first opened in January, 1901, when, for the first term, there were four day-scholars, and the school premises consisted of one room. On Mrs. Beer's return from England in the following May, we rented a house in Port Edward, and were able to receive boarders. That term we had six, of whom one is with us still. Our first prize distribution was held in July, 1903.—His Hon. the Commissioner presiding—and by that date the school contained 20 boarders and five day scholars. In January, 1904, we moved into our new premises, and at the end of that year there were 23 boarders and one day scholar. Our day scholars—our "one ewe lamb"—left us some precipitation last Easter to take up a position in an architect's office in Shanghai. To-day we number 33 boarders, an increase of 50 per cent on last year. As the school was built to receive 40 only, it will be seen that we are approaching the limit of our accommodation, a more general knowledge of the excellent climate of districts in N. China, which border on the Gulf of Pechili, we may expect other schools to be established in the future. If people out here, who constantly decry local education, are right, then these schools at the various sanatoriums of India are a gigantic mistake; and does it not become the bounden duty of every self-respecting Britisher in the great self-governing colonies to send his little ones to the home-country?

Curriculum.—The standard of education we aim at is that of the average grammar school in England. That is to say, we consider a boy leaving school between the ages of 16 and 18 should have a thorough knowledge of elementary mathematics, should be able, at least, to read Caesar's commentaries with facility, and translate easy passages from French or German authors without frequent reference to a dictionary. For boys whose homes and probable future work are in the East, a knowledge of Chinese—both written and colloquial—is of the highest importance. We have eight boys learning this language as an extra subject. A considerable proportion of our pupils finish their education in England. If parents wish their boys to take good places in school at home, they should see to it that proper tuition is given in good time. One parent here for several terms seems disappointed that his boy was considered backward by his school-master in England. We do not undertake to achieve the impossible. The responsibility of deciding the extent to which a boy goes to school rests, of course, with the parent. It is rather reasonable for a fair—either to the boy or the school—to expect us to accomplish in a year what would require two years in another school. Another difficulty with us is the social question. Mrs. Smith is not on calling terms with Mrs. Brown, and their respective husbands are not members of the same clubs. They would like to carry this sort of thing into the school-room even, and their children must not associate in the same playground. It is not a question of character, or the risk run of moral depravity, but social caste pure and simple. These little social distinctions do not trouble educationists much in the United States, or our large colonies, though very apparent in Great Britain. At this school in deference to the strong feeling against Eurasians—a feeling often carried to the extreme which a brain lengthens—we are compelled to exclude this class. All we can undertake as regards pupils admissible here is that a boy, whose general influence on younger boys is pernicious, will not be allowed to stay. Sports.—Last Easter term we played two football matches against the Gun Room Officers of H. M. S. *Amphitrite* and H. M. S. *Hogue*. We lost both—the first by 3 goals to nil, the second by 6 goals to nil. Our school team was evidently not sufficiently heavy, but we hope we gave our opponents good games. We certainly derive considerable benefit as a school from these friendly contests. This afternoon, as the weather is fine, we propose to have some swimming races. Mr. Barnes has kindly promised to give away prizes to winners in the different events. Health Record.—Our health record has again been good. We had one case of severe tonsillitis which developed inflammation that necessitated a small operation. Beyond this we have had nothing sufficiently serious to mention. Our thanks are due to Capt. Aylem, R. A.M.C., for his kind professional attendance. Staff.—We are under obligation to Miss Calder for her assistance in the house and with the little boys. And I take the opportunity of thanking Mr. Fell for his loyal support and help in the school and class-room. His interest in sports and swimming is also much appreciated. The prizes, as on previous occasions, were mostly presented by parents and others interested in the school. There has been unavoidable confusion owing to the rearrangement of classes for our public examination, and rather than that a boy should consider he is under a disadvantage, we are giving in two instances more than the usual number of two prizes to each form. The Conduct Medal this year is presented by His Honour the Commissioner. The boys who are choosing the most decent fellow in the school, but a boy who has once obtained the medal is not entitled to it a second time. Edgar, I. Ommanney, and Major have already received 23 votes out of the 32 given. You will notice that the word "education" necessarily is of frequent occurrence in a school report. We, of course, use the term in its widest sense—development in physical as well as moral and mental directions—all necessary factors in the creation of that composite being—"the perfect man." If we succeed in turning out men who are approximate to this ideal: young men who will be true to the school motto—"Deo Patrique Fidelis"—you will, I feel sure, agree with me that our aim and object as a school have in some measure been obtained. The Chairman said—Mr. Beer, Ladies and Gentlemen, I first of all wish to tell you how exceedingly sorry and regretful I am in not being able to distribute the prizes to-day. I had promised Mr. Beer to be present but had had to leave for Chemulpo. Lady Noel also wished me to say how she regretted not being able to come, as she is sure she would have enjoyed being present immensely—especially to see the boys receive their prizes. When Sir Gerard found he was unable to come, he asked me to take his place, and it has given me great pleasure to preside here to-day (applause). I am not fond of making speeches, so will confine myself to a few remarks only. I am glad the school has progressed so well and wish Mr. Beer continued prosperity in the future, in fact, that the school will grow so large that it will have to be called a "College." As Mr. Beer says the school has several disadvantages, but the very reliable information he has recently received is more than most people have been able to learn concerning the intentions of our Government as regards Wei-hai-wei (applause). The school cannot have much competition in sports; but competition is not always good for a school, as it breaks an otherwise continuous course of study, and sometimes causes too great excitement. It is true that the midshipmen of the *Hogue*, defeated the school at football, but the school beat the *Andromeda*, of which I am captain. I do not wish to hurt the feelings of the midshipmen who are present, but shall I say, it gave them a chance to wipe their eyes? (laughter). The conduct medal, I see, is given by the Commissioner. I think this must be partly—as he tells me—because he never earned such a reward himself (laughter). Bishop Sliff in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman said he was very pleased to be present at the prize distribution. He remembered very well the prize distributions when he was at school some 25 years ago. The Dean, who used to present the prizes, made such long speeches that they could hardly keep themselves from yawning. Their desks in those days were not so nice nor so suitable to show their legs. Captain Ommanney he believed, intended to make a five minute speech to each recipient of a prize, but unfortunately the desks eventually prevented his kind intentions (laughter). Remembering his own experience as a boy he would not tire them with a long speech, but would call upon them to join him in cheers—"Use your desks as much as you can"—for Mr. Beer and his school (loud applause).

LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS.

Form I. Dux prize. Won by M. A. Lorenzen, presented by P. F. Johnston, Esq. Improvement Prize. Won by W. H. Edgar, presented by J. J. F. Bandinel, Esq. Form IV. Dux prize. Won by C. W. Lorenzen, presented by J. Edgar, Esq. 2nd prize. Won by J. P. Moller. Improvement prize. Won by C. A. Bayen. Form VII. (Upper) Dux prize. Won by E. Walker, presented by G. Grimble, Esq. Improvement prize. Won by T. C. Conner. Form VII. (Lower) Dux prize. Won by W. Martinson.

Form II. Dux prize. Won by R. B. Rouch. Improvement prize. Won by W. F. Paston. Special Prize for Languages (Latin, French, German). Won by M. A. Lorenzen, presented by W. B. Bayers, Esq. Special Prize for Mathematics. Won by M. A. Lorenzen, presented by H. C. Davis, Esq. Special Prize for English Subjects. Won by M. A. Lorenzen, presented by G. D. Pittipolis, Esq. Conduct Medal. Awarded to C. W. Lorenzen, presented by His Honour the Commissioner.

SWIMMING RACES.

Boats from H. M. S. *Andromeda*, kindly lent by Captain R. N. Ommanney, were of great assistance in these races, which took place immediately after the distribution of prizes. Mrs. Barnes, the wife of our energetic O. C. Troops, graciously presented the winners with their rewards—pocket-knives and similar useful articles. There were six events in all with the following results:—

1.—50 yards (open) won by J. H. Bandinel. Presented by His Honour the Commissioner. 2.—50 yards (under 12) won by W. F. Martinson. Presented by Miss Beer. 3.—50 yards (under 12) two prizes, won by (1) C. C. Walker, (2) E. Grimble. Presented by His Honour the Commissioner. 4.—100 yards (open) won by W. W. Conner. Presented by J. W. Fell, Esq. 5.—Diving Competition, won by J. M. Bandinel. 6.—Comic Race, won by W. F. Martinson. Presented by Mrs. H. L. Beer.

Long distance swimming:—On the following Monday several of the boys spending their vacation at the school attempted a "long swim." Three boys—W. Roope (aged 14) C. Conner (18), W. F. Martinson (aged 13)—succeeded in crossing the western entrance from the beach in front of the school to Iu-kung-tau, a distance of about 2½ miles. Contributed.

A FAMOUS SINOLOGUE.

Miss Helen Legge has performed a filial duty in publishing this book. The late Dr. Legge was a man of such noble character, calm wisdom, and profound learning, who did so much for Oriental scholarship, that an account of his life is bound to be interesting and of great value. But Miss Legge does not appear to know much of the work of a biographer. For instance she does not tell us what his father's ancestry is. His personal characteristics, childhood and education are dismissed in 8 pages. Perhaps out of deference to her father's modesty she did not wish to say much of these but she allowed the book to contain many illustrations of places and scenes visited by the late professor. These are quite appropriate in a book of travel but decidedly out of place in a piece of biography. Again of the 244 pages which constitute this volume a good many pages contain matter of interest only to the family and friends of Dr. Legge, while the space allotted to the literary and linguistic labours of the sinologue, is comparatively small. It must be stated, however, that the book was originally written as a labour of love for private circulation alone and as the preface explains "I have dealt adequately with the literary side of Dr. Legge's career would have taxed the time and energy of a scholar versed in the language and thought of China." One must therefore overlook these little defects in the book and consider it on the whole as worth reading, says the *Singapore Free Press*.

He duly presented himself before the Directors of the London Missionary Society and was accepted subject to the medical report as to his fitness for a hot climate. The doctor's verdict, we are told, was unfavourable, and was to the effect that there was a tendency to consumption, and that if sent to Yacoo, he would probably die within six months. But Legge, like most true Scotchmen, was unmoved in his purpose. He went and consulted another doctor. To his immense joy he was pronounced fit and perfectly sound. This doctor was afterwards widely known as the famous Sir William Jenner.

Legge thereupon started for the East, but as China was not yet open to Europeans he was ordered to go to Malacca and become the principal of the Anglo-Chinese College already started there by Dr. Robert Morrison (1782-1831). Here he remained some years superintending the printing press attached to the college and applying himself assiduously to the study of the Chinese language. Besides this he had to teach and preach and succeeded in converting several Chinese lads among whom were Goh Boon Siew, Lee Kim Lin, and Song Hood Kiam, all of whom, afterwards, accompanied him to England where they were given a liberal education and had the honour of being presented to Queen Victoria at Buckingham Palace. Mr. Song Hood Kiam on his return was for many years the Chief Cashier of the F. and O. S. N. Co. here and died a few years ago soon after Legge's death. He was buried in Malacca, and the remains of Messrs. Song Ong Siang, M.A., L.L.B., and Song Ong Joo both of this place, returned to our subject. It was in 1843 that Dr. Legge removed his whole establishment from Malacca to Hongkong, and it was here that he was destined to perform the work which made his name famous among sinologues and Europeans resident in China—the translation of the Chinese Classics. How the stupendous scheme entered his head is this. As he had now come closer to the great land where he had set his whole heart upon going when a young man, he felt more and more convinced that he should not consider himself fit to work among the Chinese if he did not now set himself at once to study their classical books. He found that in no country the admiration of scholastic excellence was developed as in China. No kingdom where learning was so highly revered. He further found that the Chinese possessed a treasured literature and were eminently a reading nation. "It is true," he said, "that their civilisation is very different from ours but they are far removed from barbarism. When we bear in mind that for four thousand years the people have been living and flourishing there, growing and increasing, that nations with some attributes perhaps of a higher character—the Assyrian, the Persian, the Grecian, the Roman, and more modern empires, have all risen and culminated and decayed, and yet that the Chinese Empire is still there with its four hundred millions of inhabitants, why, it is clear that there must be among the people certain moral and social principles of the greatest virtue and power." Legge then began his life-long work, and studied the doctrines of Confucius and Mencius and other classical books of China until the results of his toil were gradually given to the world in his magnificent edition of the Chinese Classics consisting of eight large volumes, with copious critical and exegetical notes, prolegomena and indexes.

When the translation was partly finished Legge was bewildered as to how the expense of publication was to be met. But with the aid of a friend he soon found a patron in the person of the late Hon. John Lubbock, one of the merchant princes of Hongkong. Certainly as far as bulk goes the eight large volumes placed on a shelf looking imposing enough and must be admitted to be a truly monumental work. But the translation as examined by later and finer scholarship appears to be unequalled and is calculated rather to mislead than guide those who seek to understand the

Chinese and their character. He tried to do Confucius justice, but his profession forbade him to bestow upon Confucius the due which secular persons ungrudgingly give him. "I wish he would not have written 'I hope I have not done him injustice, but after long study of his character and opinions, I am unable to regard him as a great man. He was not before his age, though he was above the mass of the officers and scholars of his time threw no new light on any of the questions which have a world-wide interest. He gave no impulse to religion. He had no sympathy with progress. His influence has been wonderful, but it will henceforth wane. My opinion is, that the faith of the nation in him will speedily and extensively pass away." These words were penned in 1861. Thus forty-four years have passed yet the hold of Confucius seems to-day stronger than ever. There are more people now than at any other time who study his life and writings. And this in spite of the fact that little or nothing has been done by the Chinese themselves to stimulate zeal in the cause. Dr. Legge recanted writing the above quoted paragraph and in the Oxford edition of the Classics changed his opinions entirely.

In 1873 he left China for good to remain in England, after completing nearly forty years' work in the East. He was presented by the Chinese of Hongkong with a chaste silver tablet (which is illustrated in the book) as a mark of the esteem in which they held him. His Chinese friends wishing to see him continue his Chinese studies founded a chair for him in the University of Oxford. Here Legge led the life of a quiet scholar, simple and kind. "Next to China," he wrote to a friend "Oxford is the most delightful place." By his tenderness of heart and openness of mind he made himself beloved by all who knew him. One habit he maintained almost to his death—a habit which we do not wonder, was the cause of no little astonishment to his friends. He made it a point to rise up every day at 3 a.m. and worked for five hours while the rest of the family were fast asleep. The death of his wife after five happy years in Oxford, gave him a great sorrow. He, however, toiled on. He published one volume after another on the life and teachings of Confucius, life and works of Mencius, the Shi-King, with brief explanatory notes but without the Chinese text and critical matter which was interesting and useful only to serious students of Chinese. In response to Prof. Max Müller's request he contributed six volumes on Confucianism and Taoism to the "Sacred Books of the East" series. Besides these he translated Fa-Hien's "Record of Buddhist Kingdoms," and gave lectures on the religions of China. Apart from these he afterwards published numerous letters asking questions on points of Chinese literature, Chinese history, Chinese biography, Chinese astronomy, innumerable requests to translate Chinese inscriptions and documents, Chinese MSS. to read, explain and criticise. In short, no European has done more to make China and her people better known than Dr. James Legge. If we except such living sinologists as Prof. H. A. Giles, and Prof. E. H. Parker, his books on Chinese subjects are indeed the finest monuments of close scholarship. If he had been a layman and refrained from making ex parte comments and criticism in his translations, not justified by facts, Legge could certainly claim and would have earned the undying gratitude of the whole Chinese nation.

[James Legge, Missionary and Scholar.]
By his daughter, Helen E. Legge. London.]

COMMERCIAL.

Quotations for the week close as follows:—

Hongkong Banks	... \$890
National Banks	... 38 b.
Union Insurance	... 780
China Traders	... 335 sa. & b.
Canton Insurance	... 335 sa.
Hongkong Lines	... 34 b.
China Fire	... 26 sa. & b.
Indo-China	... 95 b.
China Sugar	... 220
Rubbers	... 34 b.
Docks	... 191 s.
Kowloon Wharfs	... 99 b.
Farmhams	... 137 s.
Hongkong Lands	... \$124 b.
Hongkong Hotels	... 150
Humphreys	... 12 b.
Ewo Cottons	... 150 b.
Hongkong Cottons	... \$16 sa.
Green Island Cements	... 28

YARN MARKET.

In their report, dated 25th instant, Messrs. Cawsejee Pallanjee and Co. write:—Since the issue of our last report on the 11th instant per a.s. Coromandel our yarn market has almost come to a standstill. The comparatively low prices ruling in the country against a steady rising exchange here have greatly checked dealers who not only decline of \$1 to \$3 per bale made by holders, but commenced unloading their own holdings amongst themselves at more or less loss. Business consequently has been considerably checked and the market closes quiet with a tendency to lower prices. No. 65, and No. 82, in trifling request. No. 102, in moderate demand at a decline of \$2 per bale especially in superior favourite and desired spinings; medium and common neglected. No. 122, and No. 162, a small business has been done and at the close a decline of \$1 to \$2 per bale has been established. No. 202, fair sales has been made at a decline of \$1 to \$2 per bale. Sales during the past fortnight comprised of about 25 bales of No. 65; 1,225 bales of No. 102; 350 bales of No. 122; 275 bales of No. 162; and 950 bales of No. 202; in all about 4,825 bales. Arrivals per steamers *Peking*, *Perla*, *Kumsang*, *Lightning* and *Nahia* of about 6,086 bales. Shipments to Shanghai and Northern Ports about 5,000 bales. The unsold stock is estimated at about 48,000 bales.

Local Yarn:—No business reported, the mill having sold well forward.

Japanese Yarn:—Nothing doing.

Exchange:—We quote to-day on India at Rs. 144 1/2 per cent. London at 11 1/2 d. = \$

CHINA TRADERS' AND UNIONS AMALGAMATION.

AGREEMENT SIGNED.

We are authorised to state that a Provisional Agreement has been entered into between the Boards of Directors of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., and the China Traders' Insurance Company, Ltd., having for its object the amalgamation of the interests of the two Companies, and that the proposed scheme will be forthwith circulated among the shareholders of the respective companies for their individual acceptance or rejection.

THE SHANGHAI SHARK MARKET.

Writing in the *China Gazette* on 18th inst., "Spectator" says:—

"During the week under review investors have been conspicuous by their absence, and we have therefore only a few unimportant deals to report

under this heading. Hall and Holz have changed hands @ \$17. Lands @ Tls. 122.50 and 122, and a few more shares are wanted at the latter figure. A small lot of Kaiping has been done @ Tls. 7.65 Bearer scrip. Ewo Cottons @ Tls. 49, and Laokungmows @ Tls. 57.50. Gas Co. shares have been disposed of @ Tls. 122.50, and Hotel des Colonies have been done @ Tls. 17.50 at which rate a few more shares are wanted.

With the exception of one stock speculator have kept very quiet during the week. *Hong-kew Pharos* have slightly weakened, and a small business has been done @ Tls. 206. For December, 1905 and 107.50 for September and 195 for Cash. *Indos* are quiet @ Tls. 67 for cash, and a few shares have changed hands @ Tls. 71 for December. *Farmhams* have had a little attention at receding rates, business having been done @ Tls. 127 cash, 130 for August, 125 for September and 144, 142, and 141.50 for December. The former Managing Director left Shanghai for good by the last German mail and Mr. Mackenzie has joined the board of directors by the vacancy thus created. We do not think the perceptible decline in the price of this stock has anything to do whatever with the departure of Mr. Twentyman, who, able and clever as he undoubtedly was in his capacity of professional dock-man, did not have it in his power to drag ships into docks where they did not want to go.

The mild sensation of the week has been the declaration by the Langkat Co. on the 16th inst. of an interim dividend of Tls. 2.50 payable on the 15th September. This message, people with ordinary acumen this morning do not come as a surprise at all, but for the large section of the body of going into figures this result must have been distinctly disappointing. There was an immediate and natural drop of twenty points in the price on the 16th inst., and a fair amount of business has been done at the following rates: Tls. 182.50 and 160 for cash. Tls. 183, 181.50, 180 and 155 for August. Tls. 183, 170 and 162.50 for September. Tls. 181, 184, 105 and 162.50 for October. Tls. 187, 166 and 167.50 for November. Tls. 190, 189, 188, 187.50, 187, 168 and 170 for December. The market closes somewhat firmer, but we have no faith in any upward tendency for some time yet.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.	
London—Bank T.T.	1/11 1/2
Do. demand	1/11 3/16
Do. 4 months sight	1/11 5/16
France—Bank T.T.	2 1/2
America—Bank T.T.	40 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T.	1 07
India T.T.	144
Do. demand	144 1/2
Singapore—Bank T.T.	7 1/2
Singapore T.T.	9 1/2 prem.
Japan—Bank T.T.	94 1/2
Java—Bank T.T.	115 1/2
Buying.	
4 months sight L/C	1/11 7/16
6 months sight L/C	1/11 9/16
30 days sight San Francisco & New York	47 1/2
4 months sight do.	48 1/2
30 days sight Sydney and Melbourne	1/11 11/16
4 months sight do.	2 40
2 months sight do.	47 1/2
4 months sight Germany	28 1/2
Bank of India rate	24 7
Sovereign	10.37

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

DAMAGE estimated at Y100,000 was done to the M. B. Co.'s Buildings at the Hashima coal mine in the recent typhoon.

THE Seoul-Fusan railway pays a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. The daily receipts average Yen 9 per mile.

THE civilian inhabitants of Korsakoff were rescued by the Japanese from the brutal violence of the Russian convict volunteers.

ADMIRAL Rozhdvensky's niece, who was unsuccessful in her endeavour to be allowed to nurse him, is returning to Russia by the advice of her uncle.

A WIRE to the *N. C. D. News* from Soerabaya, dated 14th inst., reports that the fighting in Boni has practically come to an end, and the country is quiet.

It is reported that a French syndicate has demanded from the Waiwup a concession of a railway from Kwang-chow-wan to Yulin-chow.—*The Universal Gazette*.

WE (*Shanghai Mercury*) understand that the Municipal Council has put in a claim of Tls. 63,000 for salvage, for work done at the burning of the oil steamer *Perla*, last Saturday.

THE First Bank, which is now the Korean Government bank, pays a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, plus Y220,000 to reserve, carrying forward a similar amount.

FOR the present the Government will grant no charters to Japanese for the working of mines, timber, seal-catching, etc. in Saghalien. No landed property held by the Government will be sold.

It has been ascertained that in May last the Vladivostok squadron executed the brilliant feat of sinking a Japanese sloop of 115 tons, sending the crew of ten men as prisoners to Harbin.

THE late Mr. Henry Blake, eldest son of the Governor of Hongkong, held a high position in mining circles in Western Australia, being its understood manager of a considerable mining concern.

EIGHTEEN cases of Buddhist bibles which the Empress Dowager is giving to a priest in Ningpo came down from Peking on the 4th, and are now awaiting shipment to the south.—*P. and T. Times*.

THE result of investigations made by the authorities shows that the existing collieries in Saghalien will produce enough coal to supply the demand of the Army and Navy now employed at Saghalien.

THE boxing contest for the championship of the Orient, between Bellew and Christie, has been definitely arranged to take place in Tientsin on Saturday, September 2nd, and not in Chefoo as was supposed.

INSTRUCTIONS have been received in Nagasaki from America to have the body of the late Captain Barker, who was killed in the Kyushu railway accident, embalmed preparatory to being forwarded to the United States.

THE *Strait Times* prints the following Simla telegram dated the 16th inst.:—The native Indians are boycotting European goods as a protest against the decision of the Government to divide Bengal into two provinces.

THE *P. and T. Times* reports that the Yellow River has burst its left bank above Kaifeng, and is apparently returning to the N. E. channel it deserted some centuries ago, running past Weibulu to where three provinces meet, Chili, Shantung, and Honan.

WE (*P. and T. Times*) understand that the brother of the late Mr. Chou Ol-tong (is Director of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co. in Shanghai. He is attempting to found a Chinese Fire Insurance Co. and if he succeeds it will be the second of its kind in China.

SINCE the outbreak of the war the price of commodities in Japan has continued to advance, and according to returns made by the Bank of Japan, the average prices ruling last month showed a further advance of 1.19 per cent. over the figures for the preceding month.

SEVEN of the crew of the schooner *Otha Maru* were on shore in Kamchatka, unarmed, to procure fresh water. They were fired on by Russian troops, and tried to swim off, five being shot dead by the Russians and two succeeding in reaching the schooner, which sailed away.

A SUGGESTION has been made in Yokohama to form there a British Volunteer organisation, to be called the "Alliance Guards." The proposer says that 150 men could easily be raised, and get ready in time to make an imposing show as a guard of honour to the Prince of Wales when he visits Japan.

EVIDENCE is not lacking to support a belief in certain quarters, says a Washington correspondent, that William H. Taft may have sacrificed his chance to become President of the United States in his devotion to the interests of the Philippines, with which possessions his name has become inseparable.

It is reported from Peking that, as the principal object of the four High Commissioners' mission abroad is to gain an insight into the representative governments of Europe and America, in order to introduce parliamentary representation into China, Russia, for obvious reasons is not to be visited by any of the Commissioners. Holland, also, is to be omitted.

REFERRING to the departure of Mr. J. R. Twentyman from Shanghai the *N. C. D. News* says:—Through all the controversies which have lately raged around "Docks" Mr. Twentyman has retained the confidence of the majority of the shareholders who have been wont to look to him as the strong man of the great business which has grown under his headship.

VICEROY Tsen Ch'un-huen, of Canton, according to a report in Mandarin circles, has received one year's leave of absence from Peking, to enable his Excellency to go abroad to seek health and the services of European medical experts. H.E. Li Ching-hai, Governor of Kwangsi province, is further reported, will be appointed Viceroy, ad interim, of the Two Kwang provinces.

THE *Shanghai* published a letter from Shanghai in which it is stated that in spite of the placards posted by certain persons in the province calling upon natives of Shantung not to go to South Africa on account of the ill-treatment given to Chinese labourers at the Rand, there has been no stoppage in the number of coolies enlisting for South Africa; no less than 3,000 odd having left Chefoo for the Rand only a few days ago.

ACCORDING to a Peking despatch, H.E. Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai is fast ascending to the top, for his Excellency's influence over the Empress Dowager is such that he stands now in the position which it took the late Li Hung-chang ten times as long to occupy. Rarely a day passes in which there are not at least half a dozen secret code telegrams from the Empress Dowager to the Viceroy asking for his advice. Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai can easily be styled to-day the most powerful subject of the Throne.

ACCORDING to northern exchanges, Mr. Nomi Kan, a Japanese priest, who had studied Sanskrit and Tibetan, and was an eager explorer, has never been heard of since he wrote from Yunnan in 1901. The following autograph inscription has been recently discovered on the wall of a Tibetan frontier inn: "Here Nomi Kan, of the province of Iwami in the Empire of Japan, was murdered by the natives." Another Japanese explorer, Mr. Kawaguchi, who left Tibet last year, is also missing.

THE Tamil interpreter, who was requested by Mr. Hazeland to see if he could raise any funds among his compatriots towards a passage to Singapore for the old man Sangamapilly Nattilingam, appeared before His Worship and said he and two friends had made up \$5 between them. His Worship thanked him, and said the balance would be made up out of the poor box. He remanded the man Sangamapilly in police custody, while Inspector Warnock made arrangements for his passage to Singapore.

GOVERNOR Ting of Yunnan wires to the Wai Wup that the monks of the Ba-king Temple having incited the desperadoes and disorderly elements of Kiangtung to an uprising, an expedition was despatched which has had the effect of dispersing the rowdies. But owing to the state of the roads the troops could not deal with the desperadoes effectively. Prefect Li has petitioned that he has found one of the missing missionaries. In the meantime more men are being sent out to look for the other missionaries.—*The Wan-pao*.

It is reported that the net half-yearly profits of the Imperial Chinese Railways for the six months ending March 1, 1905, amount to a little over \$350,000, and that if this rate of progress is maintained, as is confidently expected, the year's profits will, even after paying interest on the loan and providing the stipulated sum for amortisation, amount to over \$600,000. With this sum the Chinese Government has already commenced the construction of the 120-mile line to Kalgan. Experts believe that even after the war, which has helped the railway, the development of trade in Manchuria will continue to such an extent that this profit will remain undiminished.

THE following telegraphic information, dated 16th inst., has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Matschappij tot Mijn-Boschen Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Ld.:—

Daily aggregate output of Crude Petroleum	 Gallons 81,000
Crude Petroleum in Tanks at date	 110,000
Kerosene made since the date of the preceding half-monthly telegram	 Cases 77,000
Kerosene shipped since the date of the preceding half-monthly telegram	 77,000
Kerosene in stock at Refinery at date	 68,000

THE Japanese Bureau of Prisoners of War lately received a large sum of money from Russia for distribution among the Russian prisoners in Japan. It is stated, says the *Japan Times*, that none of the money is to be given to any of the officers and men who were under the command of Rear Admiral Nebogatoff, on account of their surrender.

It is regrettable to hear that the rate of mortality in the neighbouring French colony of Saigon has been abnormally high within recent months in the European population. For July 46 deaths had to be recorded and for the first week of this month there were 19 deaths and amongst the latter is to be included the manager of the Chartered Bank.

WE (*Bangkok Times*) understand that the difficulty with the Opium Farm has been settled by giving the present Farmers the monopoly for four years, in place of three, while the price has been slightly reduced. In addition, the revenue the Farm has to pay this year has been considerably reduced, and will be increased each year, the average for the four years being Tcs. 8,500,000.

THE death occurred, on Wednesday night, of Mr. Frederick Charles Denny, who had been for some time past connected with the Metropole Hotel. Mr. Denny was an Australian, and for nearly a score of years had been a sailor on the China coast. He was exceedingly popular both as a shipping man and in his new capacity at the Metropole. He was only 40 years of age.

THE *Mainichi* states that the Japan-Volunteer Fleet Association has given orders to the Kawasaki and Miya Bishi Dock Companies for the construction of certain warships for the proposed Volunteer Fleet. Three vessels are to have a speed of 21 knots, and each to carry eight quick-firing guns. It is intended that they shall be used for the purpose of capturing the enemy's transports and other similar work.

THE Kudat correspondent of the *Parak Pioneer*, writing on 30th ult., states that the timber business carried on by the China Borneo Company at Kudat will be closed by the end of this year. "Three months' notice has been given to Mr. Viole, the accountant. Mr. Jupp, the local manager, will be transferred to Tawo. He has been given three months' leave, and he is now spending his holiday with Mr. Lease of the Sapang Estate.

ON Tuesday Mr. F. A. Hazeland gave his decision in the case of the placards. The two men were unable to set up any defence. Mr. Gray Scott, manager of the Electric Tramways Co., said that the posting of these placards was in no way affecting the company's business. The Chinese employees, however, did not like it and might be affected by it. The two men were fined \$25 each, with the usual alternative, and warned against a repetition of their offence.

It is stated from Peking that the Commission will be absent from China from eighteen to twenty months at the most, that each Commissioner will be allowed to take with him at most six persons of his staff, and that the sum of three quarters of a million taels has been set aside to pay for the expenses of the four Commissioners. It is further stated that the Commissioners may be expected in Shanghai, en route, about the beginning of next month.

THE *Takungpao* newspaper published in Tientsin states that it has received news from Shantung to the effect that there is a rumour of a widespread conspiracy on foot in that province to rise against the Germans, the date set being the 18th day of the 8th month (16th September next). It is alleged that each family is to provide one fighting man, whose equipments are to be paid by public subscription. Rumours of this kind are hardly occasional in China.

MR. Tse Tsai Shan declares that the material supplied by him to the *Daily Chronicle* in reference to the treatment of Chinese coolies in South Africa is absolutely correct in every detail, and the statements made therein cannot, in any way, be characterised as absurd. Mr. Tse Tsai Shan has been associated with the work on the East Rand mines for several months and thence has many opportunities of seeing for himself the treatment to which the coolies in South Africa were being subjected.

A TA Chien-Ju despatch to the *Universal Gazette* reports that inquiries have elicited the fact that the late Amban Fang was murdered by Thibetians while travelling in his sedan chair. He was fired upon from behind, and when injured he alighted from his chair and committed suicide with the sword which he wore at the time. His corpse has been recovered, and it was identified by the Thibetians. There was a sword in his right hand; his left leg was gone. A six-chambered revolver-bullet was found in his body.

SONG, time ago regulations as to the number of passengers to be carried by the steamers were sent to the Minister of Southern Trade, but the I.G. has had a despatch from the Soerabaya Commissioner stating that the boiler burst on a boat carrying some thirty passengers on the Min River, and that in another instance a boat carrying 400 passengers, when it was only meant to carry 150, was upset and 350 people drowned. The I.G. suggests that a fine of Tls. 500 be inflicted for this offence when proved, and that the persons responsible for any accident through overloading be dealt with severely. The Wai-wu-pu approve this.

In their freight market report of 17th inst., Messrs. Wheelock & Co., Shanghai, write:—We have nothing new to report in our home-ward freight market since last writing, and cargo, especially tea, is unusually backward considering the time of the year; we would point out to shippers that the rate on wool to Philadelphia, via Suez Canal, Conference steamers, is now 40/- instead of 37/6. Coal-wards:—Things could hardly be worse all round than they are at present; there is absolutely no demand for tonnage on "time" or "freight" money. The rate on coal is 10/- per ton, and is likely to continue to lay-up, at any rate for the next few weeks.

AT the Summary Court on Monday before the Puleno Judge, Mr. A. G. Wile, Chun Chuk Lam, of 22 Hollywood Road, and Ching Pak, formerly clerk at the Magistracy, for \$500 money lent. The plaintiff's story was that he lent the defendant the money for the purpose of ball in connection with his recent case. The defendant denied that he borrowed the money for himself, although he admitted receiving it on behalf of the plaintiff's son, who was shroff at the Magistracy in order to get him out of trouble. Judgment was given for plaintiff with costs. Mr. Master of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master, appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. Atkinson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, and Deacon, represented the defendant.

A FOREIGN casino has been held up by the police in Hongkong. The captives included 13 Russian men, 5 Austrians, 9 Frenchmen and one Italian, as well as a number of women of various nationalities. The Police also captured a large sum of money, including all that had actually been in play on the tables, and that which was found on the persons of the prisoners. One man had nearly four thousand roubles in Russian money in his possession, and others had many hundreds of dollars in various coins.

THE case in which Kung Fat was charged on six counts of burglary, highway robbery, robbery with violence, and theft in a dwelling, capped by a second return from banishment, was resumed before Mr. Hazeland on Wednesday, Sergeant Gordon prosecuting. One charge of armed robbery was heard, evidence being led, and witnesses proving the identity of the accused, his presence at the scene, and his subsequent possession of some of the stolen property, and pawn tickets. He was committed to take his trial at the next session.

ON the arrival of the *s.s. Siletta* from Singapore, Sergeant Eames, boarded the steamer and arrested a Chinese female named Li Ah Sze, under a telegraphic request from the Singapore Police, Li being wanted in the Southern Colony for criminal breach of trust in respect of a quantity of diamond jewellery, under the jurisdiction of the Straits Settlements. When arrested 16 notes of \$10 each in Straits Settlements currency were found in her possession, but no diamond jewels. Evidence of the arrest was given before Mr. G. N. Orme, and the case remanded, pending the arrival of the necessary papers from Singapore.

Mr. Joseph Hicks, of Messrs. Llewellyn & Co., Shanghai, has been drowned. He was returning with a launch party from a picnic, and it appears that while the others were below he went on deck, took a bucket, and giving the rope a turn or two round his wrist, dropped it into the water. The launch was travelling at a speed of from eight to nine knots at the time, and when the bucket filled the strain on the rope was so great as to pull the deceased overboard. Mr. Hicks could not swim and was drowned before anyone knew what had occurred. The deceased was but 25 years of age, a Scotsman by birth, and only arrived in Shanghai in April of this year. His only parent is a widowed mother who lives near Edinburgh.

THE huge tent was crowded. From the gallery at the back, where lessons in the art of sailing packing had been taken and applied, to the edge of the ring, where the boxes were placed, every spot which a human being could occupy was occupied. And there was a loud buzz of conversation, until the arrival of H. E. the Governor and suite when the orchestra set to work at the first few bars of the National Anthem. Tuesday was the vice-regal night at the circus and His Excellency attended with quite a large party which included his aides-de-camp, Sir Francis T. Pigott (Chief Justice) Lord, Mr. Gershom Stewart and a number of ladies. They were accommodated in a specially furnished box above which half a dozen fans were whirling around, and when the party had been banded programmes printed on silk, the performance began and proved another great success for Fitzgerald Bros. and their performers.

ON the Borneo Wharf yesterday, a score of rough men in rough garb, and many big, loosely built women were wrestling, through the medium of the Russian language, with the native hawkers of food, and clothing for the no doubt scanty supplies. According to the *Singapore Free Press* of 15th inst., they were part of a small crowd of Russian refugees from Saghalien, whose departure was by recent developments has been rendered necessary by the recent developments in that part of the universe. They were being conveyed to Europe by the French mail *Tonkin*. Among the crowd of exiles were officials of the island, and the boat also carried the Russian Governor of Saghalien. The same day Captain Hawtrey, acting Chief Police Officer, received information that a number of Russians were in the town creating a disturbance. The men it was alleged were escaped convicts from the island of Saghalien. Captain Hawtrey himself with a posse of men, went to Beachford where the men were taken in charge after some little trouble, and were then put aboard the *Tonkin* again.

SAVS the *Manila Times*:—Owing to the prevalence of cholera in Hongkong, the quarantine officials at this port are taking every precaution to prevent the disease from reaching these islands. Dr. Peiser, chief quarantine officer for the Philippine islands, in a letter to the collector of customs has asked his co-operation in steps that it has been thought necessary to take to prevent the disease from coming here, namely, a rigid system of inspection of the baggage of all passengers from the Chinese coast. All baggage and customs inspectors have been asked to carefully inspect the personal baggage of passengers and hold for quarantine inspection all green leaves, fresh plants, bottled waters, moist food stuffs, preserves, edibles of any kind not thoroughly dried, and any other suspicious article found in the baggage of passengers from China. Arrangements have also been made to expedite this rigid quarantine inspection as much as possible, so as not to delay passengers unnecessarily. Every effort is being made and precaution taken by the quarantine officials to keep up the high standard of health existing in these islands, and the public here need feel no alarm over the conditions existing in Hongkong and other Chinese ports.

ACCORDING to the *Singapore Free Press*, when the French mail, the *Tonkin*, (on the journey to Europe) carrying a number of Russian officials formerly at Saghalien and refugees, was in open sea one of the wardens reported to the Chief Superintendent of Prisoners on board that three men, convicts from the settlement who had escaped, had paid their passage money at Saigon for Singapore. There were no convicts on the boat besides these three and the fact that they were there caused considerable anxiety. The Russian Consul at Singapore declares that two of these men were second time murderers, that is to say they had been sent to Saghalien for murder and had been committed murder again. The Captain of the steamer was informed and was requested to have them placed under control, but he refused. He explained that they had paid their passage and in his eyes were ordinary passengers. Of course, when the *Tonkin* moored at the Borneo Wharf they disappeared. The Singapore police were acquainted with the circumstance and three of the wardens on the steamer were sent to assist them in the search. Only one was captured, and the other two are still at liberty. But instead of these two in question to others who left Saghalien when the Japanese opened the doors of the prisons were captured, and had but a brief spell at large. If captured these men cannot presumably be dealt with as convicts; as there is no one to identify them and no papers to connect them with the Russian prison system.

A MADMAN was arrested in Tai Ho Hall of the Imperial Palace on the 8th inst., sitting on the ground smoking a cigarette. The guard on duty saw him through the window by which he had evidently entered, and as it is prohibited for them to enter the Hall, they caught him by means of poles with hooks on the end, by which they dragged the man out, and then found he was mad. He proved to be a printer by trade about 30 years of age. He had a small bag with him, and a sword and a knife, and it is stated that he cut the window with the sword. The guard was of the plain white banner troops and they cannot say how the man got in, so there is greater consternation among all the officials that were on duty that day.—*P. and T. Times*.

THE friends of Mr. C. J. Price have learned with much regret of his untimely death, which took place on board the *s.s. Hua*, of which he was third engineer, on the 13th inst. Mr. Price was well-known and popular in Hongkong, having been for five years with the Hongkong Electric Company, only leaving there to return to sea with the object of securing a chief engineer's certificate. He was a member of the Hongkong Engineer's Institute, and also of the Zealand Lodge of Freemasons, and among the members his death under such strange circumstances has created much painful surprise, as he was a young man of considerable promise, well-liked by all who knew him. Mr. Price was an Englishman and only thirty years of age at the time of his death.

ON the night of the 19th ult., the godown of the Mutual Stores was broken into and 89 cases of tinned milk stolen. From investigations made by the police it was learned that the cases had been transferred to a cargo-boat, and branded with the mark "A," and thereafter shipped in the *s.s. Kwang Sang* for Shanghai. A telegram was at once despatched to Shanghai requesting that the milk be stopped and the consignment arrested. On the arrival of the *Kwang Sang* in Shanghai the police there boarded the steamer and awaited developments, but as no one appeared to claim the milk it was taken charge of by the police, and returned to Hongkong. In the meantime the investigators at this end discovered the cargo-boat which had taken the cases to the Shanghai steamer, and a search on board of her revealed a stencil-plate for putting the mark "A" on goods, together with a bowl of ink and a brush. The boat master was arrested and on Monday placed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, charged with complicity in the theft of the milk. The case is proceeding. Other arrests are expected to follow.

"CHOLERA Bad at Hongkong." So says a Manila paper, and from what the journal appears to know about the prevalence of the disease here, it is very evident that we should be thankful there are some of us left to contradict the report. "While the British health authorities refuse to give out details concerning the spread of the disease, says the well-informed journal, 'the health officials here have been advised by the United States quarantine officials at the British port that the dread disease is on the increase in that port and extra precautions are now being taken here to prevent the disease again gaining a foothold in these islands.' The importation of fresh vegetables from Hongkong and other infected ports is absolutely prohibited until further orders. The strictness of the quarantine at Mariveles has been increased and food aboard incoming ships is very closely inspected and the personal baggage of passengers is thoroughly searched—presumably for microbes. The official return issued this afternoon and dealing with the week end d 19th inst., shows two cases of cholera as having been notified. One of these was imported from Canton.

FOR the purpose of illustrating a point in a case which was heard in summary jurisdiction on Tuesday—His Honour Mr. A. G. Wile, Puisne Judge, on the bench—Mr. Jupp was brought into Court. A more detailed looking article it would have been difficult to imagine. It had only one protected side, the glass in the door three oblongs having been smashed or perhaps used for some other purpose. It was not straight at any angle. The oil-lamp was a battered iron pan; the wick was a piece of dirty rope nearly an inch and a half long; and the top of the can came off without troubling about being uncreased. That was the sort of lamp which served to warm vessels in the harbour that a junk was in the way. It failed ignominiously when a fast steam launch came along and crashed into the junk. Yet it was almost pathetic to witness the pride of the junk owner in his travesty of an illuminating agent. It might have been an Aladdin lamp by which genius could be conjured from the depths. It was a lamp that would give "brilliant light for ten or twelve hours a night" according to its statement; "brilliant" is rather clever. His Lordship remarked that he had seen similar lamps, of the kind now

Intimation.

WM. POWELL,
LIMITED.

"ALEXANDRA"
BUILDINGS

Des Vieux Road

LADIES'
SHOES.

A
SPECIAL
PURCHASE
OF
HIGH GRADE
SHOES
NOW ON SHOW,
comprising:

TAN GLACE
SLIPPERS.

BLACK GLACE
SLIPPERS.

TAN GLACE
LOUIS XV. Heel.

BLACK GLACE
LOUIS XV. Heel.

CHAMPAGNE
GLACE
LOUIS XV. Heel.

BRONZE 4-BAR
LOUIS XV. Heel.

PATENT
WALKING
SHOES.

All the above are of
excellent style, quality
and finish.

Comfort, smartness and
wear guaranteed.

INSPECTION INVITED.

Wm. POWELL & Co.

HONGKONG

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

In their report dated 25th inst. Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts state:—
Only a moderate business has been put through during the week and transactions have been principally in connection with the approaching settlement. A further rise in most of the marine stocks, especially Unions, has to be noted.

The Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited, has declared an Interim Dividend of 4 per cent. on Ordinary and 3½ per cent. on Preference shares, payable in Shanghai on the 28th instant.

Banks.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banks have experienced a decline of several points and close with sellers at \$88½ ex the dividend of £151-(\$18.66.67) paid on the 21st instant. The sterling quotation has also fallen and the latest wire from home gives the closing rate at \$88 10/-.

Nationals are still wanted at \$88. Marine Insurance.—Carbons have further risen and have been negotiated at \$335. Sales of China Traders have been effected at advancing rates up to \$80 at which figures more shares are required for. Unions have further improved and have been bought at \$750 closing in demand. North Chinas and Yangtses are unchanged.

Fire Insurance.—Hongkong Fires have been fixed at \$335 and business in China Fires has been transacted at \$84.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have been disposed of and are in further request at \$26. Indo-Chinas have inquiries at \$95. China and Manilas are in the market at \$30 and Douglas Steamships continue quiet at \$35. Star Ferries are offering at \$33 and \$25 for the old and new shares respectively. Shell Transports can be obtained at 21/- Shanghai Tugs remain firm at Tls. 60 for the ordinary and at Tls. 50 for the preference shares. Taku Tugs are wanted at Tls. 29.

Refineries.—China Sugars have weakened to \$229. Lurons are without business at \$35. Mining.—Raubas have hardened and can be placed at \$34. Chinese Engineerings are on offer at Tls. 7 70.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have reacted and are to be had at \$91 ex the dividend of \$6 paid on the 22nd instant. Farnhams have still further depreciated, but are inquired for at Tls. 137. Kowloon Wharfs have gone back to \$100. Hongkong Wharfs have slightly strengthened and are in demand at Tls. 191 ex the interim dividend of Tls. 6 paid on the 22nd instant. Geo. Fenwicks are wanted at quotations.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have changed hands at \$126 and \$127 and close at \$128. Shanghai Lands have sellers at Tls. 122. West Points are easier and may be procured at \$56. Astor House Hotels have been dealt in at \$27½ ex the dividend of \$2½ paid on the 19th instant. Hongkong Hotels are steady at \$150. Hotel des Colonies have found buyers at Tls. 17 and Tls. 17½ and are now wanted at Tls. 18. Humphreys Estate have been placed at \$124.

Cotton Mills.—Ewos are reported sold at Tls. 50 and Internationals have changed ownership at Tls. 45. Laou-Kung-Mows are inquired for at the advanced rate of Tls. 57½. Soeychees have jumped to Tls. 225 and are wanted. Hongkong Cottons have also improved and are quoted at \$16. In their statement of accounts covering the period from 1st August, 1904, to 21st July, 1905, the general managers state that the balance at credit of profit and loss account is \$78,164.32 which is proposed to appropriate as follows:—To pay a dividend of \$1 per share for the year, absorbing \$125,000; to place to equalization of dividend fund \$30,000 and to carry forward \$23,164.32.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements are quiet at \$28. China Providents have been booked at \$9.10. Steam waterboats are up to \$15 and Dairy Farms have been sold at \$17. After touching Tls. 160. Langkats have recovered and sales at Tls. 175 are reported.

YARN MARKET.

In their report dated 25th inst. Messrs. Cawsey Pallanjee and Co. write:—Since the issue of our last report on the 11th inst. per s.s. *Coromandel* our yarn market has almost come to a standstill. The comparatively lower prices ruling in the country and a steady rising exchange here have greatly checked dealers who not only declined to enter the market and accept the concession of \$1 to \$1½ per bale made by holders, but commenced unloading their own holdings amongst themselves at more or less loss. Business consequently has been considerably checked and the market closes quiet with a tendency to lower prices. No. 6s. and No. 8s. in trifling request. No. 10s. in moderate demand at a decline of \$2 per bale especially in superior favourite and desired spinnings; medium and common neglected. No. 12s. and No. 16s. a small business has been done and at the close a decline of \$1 to \$1½ per bale has been established. No. 20s. fair sales have been made at a decline of \$1 to \$1½ per bale. Sales during the past fortnight comprised of about 25 bales of No. 6s.; 72½ bales of No. 10s.; 350 bales of No. 12s.; 275 bales of No. 16s.; and 950 bales of No. 20s. in all about 2,825 bales. Arrivals per steamers *Pekin*, *Prima*, *Kumang*, *Lightning* and *Nubia* of about 6,085 bales. Shipment to Shanghai and Northern Ports about 5,000 bales. The unsold stock is estimated at about 48,000 bales.

Local Yarn.—No business reported, the mill having sold well forward. Japanese Yarn.—Nothing doing. Exchange.—We quote to-day on India at Rs. 144½ per cent. London at Rs. 113½ = \$1.00.

INDIA ARMY ADMINISTRATION

A STRANGE DOCUMENT.

Calcutta, August 1st.—The Acting Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce has addressed the Private Secretary to H.E. the Viceroy, dated 27th July, as follows:—

I am directed by the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to refer to the recently published correspondence regarding the Administration of the Army in India. The Committee have considered the correspondence with very great attention and interest. They do not pretend to any special knowledge qualifying them to say whether a system of military administration which has hitherto existed, or that proposed by Lord Kitchener, or that defined by the Secretary of State, is a better system from a military point of view. That is, they recognise, a matter for decision by military experts. But they are interested in the financial aspect of the question. They noticed with apprehension that H.E. the Viceroy in his Minute dated 6th February, 1905, on the proposal advanced by H.E. the Commander-in-Chief, endorsed the opinion previously expressed by the Marquis of Dufferin, that, under any such arrangement, "it would be necessary for the country to be at the mercy of the Commander-in-Chief." In view of this expression of opinion on the part of His Excellency, the Commercial Community of Calcutta naturally regard the Secretary of State's scheme, which appears to be modelled largely on that advanced by His Excellency Lord Kitchener, with great anxiety. In so regarding it, they are not moved by any distrust of, or want of confidence in, that distinguished soldier, who so ably fills the high office of Commander-in-Chief. But they feel that the introduction of a system, which would admit the possibility of such a contingency, as that foreshadowed by the Marquis of Dufferin, would be entirely subversive of principles which have hitherto controlled the military policy of the Government of India.

The main features of the new scheme are defined in Mr. Brodrick's Despatch dated the 31st May, 1905. The scheme distinguishes between purely military services and the services of supply and manufacture. The former will be controlled by the Army Department, at the head of which will be the Commander-in-Chief who will be as now a member of Council; and the latter by the Military Supply Department, which will be in charge of another member of Council. In paragraph 18 of the Despatch certain measures are proposed which, it is stated, strengthen the financial control of the Government over military expenditure. Apart from this reference to finance, the Committee have been unable to gather what measure of control will be or can be exercised by the Governor-General in Council over the proposals emanating from the Army Department. Hitherto the Governor-General in Council has exercised his control, both financial and otherwise, through the Military Department; but that department will cease to exist, and no other controlling agency is presumably to be created, for the Military Supply Department is evidently to be concerned only with its own proper business, as paragraph 15 of the Despatch clearly lays down that there shall not be two officers appointed to the Viceroy's Council for the purpose of giving expert opinions on a military question. In these circumstances, the question whether the contingency feared by Lord Dufferin may not be realised under the new system has naturally suggested itself to the Committee. They do not assume that such will be the case, but speaking on behalf of the Commercial Community, they feel that some additional information as to what agency is to be called into existence to enable the Governor-General in Council to exercise that financial control which is his prerogative to exercise is very desirable in the public interest. In other words, the Committee venture most respectfully to ask if His Excellency the Viceroy will be pleased to communicate such further information upon this point as may be calculated to define clearly the financial relations which will subsist between the Government of India and the new Army Department.

THE WRECK OF THE "CHODOC"

TERRIBLE SCENES.

Some personal experiences of passengers by the ill-fated transport *Chodoc*, which was wrecked, on her homeward voyage from Saigon, near Cape Guardafui, on June 28 at 3.30 a.m., show that the perils encountered on shore were even greater than those from the shipwreck itself. Of one account we give a translation below:—We were steaming along over a calm sea at a speed of ten knots when we were suddenly awakened by a loud crash of the screw. It was half-past three in the morning. There was a clear moon which enabled us to make out distinctly the coast which was very close. At that moment the captain, after having ascertained the position of the ship, gave the order to proceed with the saving of the passengers. It was in lowering one of the boats that naval officer, Mr. Eliau, met his death. As best they could the passengers succeeded in reaching the shore without attempting to save any of their effects, which they had been forbidden to take anything with them. The natives, Damagals, having noticed the wreck, rapidly assembled in great numbers, and after having examined what remained of the ship had information that let them know they could plunder with impunity—went for the contents of the holds after a promise of looking after the safety of the shipwrecked folk and getting provisions for them. At any rate it had been found possible to bring ashore food for two days, provisions for the most part damaged, as well as some tents that were pitched as a shelter from the sun.

For three days existence was prolonged between the prospect of a frightful death by hunger or thirst, and the dread of some tortures inflicted by the natives of the place. These indeed came up armed with lances and Gras rifles, and threatened anybody who offered resistance. Masters of the situation they gave themselves up to a horrid plunder during the sleep of the women, harassed with fatigue. All was stolen, jewels, clothing, pillows. They went even so far as to thrust their hands into the corages of the women in their search for objects that they might have concealed there. Some isolated scenes, of a still more repulsive character, were enacted here and there.

The third day we were completely exhausted, by our privations and by the despair of receiving any help, being out of sight. All at once we saw the natives on the shore, they were directing towards the coast, where they were distinguishing some unusual. Some of the natives even raised their rifles and fired them off. We immediately understood that help was coming. Presently other shots were fired in reply to those of the natives, and at the same moment we saw appearing a large boat filled with thirty Russian sailors, who were our salvation. These sailors had come from the "Smolensk," when passing near and having noticed the debris of the wreck had immediately despatched assistance. The savages, happily not knowing how to fire accurately, were easily driven off by the sailors, and the work of rescue began. The task of embarking the shipwrecked company was tedious and full of danger. We left on the shore (M. Parus, a military officer, who had been killed by a blow from a club. The *Chodoc* was considered a hopeless wreck, lying on her beam-end on a sand bank. She had carried about 600 passengers on board.

Intimations.

FOUNDED IN HONOUR.
No doubt you have seen in the papers and announcements, as this concerning some medicines or other. If, on trial, you write that this medicine has done you no good we will refund your money. Now, we have never had reason to speak in that way concerning the remedy named in this article. It is a remedy extending throughout the world, nobody has ever complained that our medicine has failed, or asked for the return of his money. The public never grumbles at honestly and skillfully made bread, or at a medicine which really and actually does what it was made to do. The foundations of

WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION are laid in sincerity and honour, the knowledge of which on the part of the people explains its popularity and success. There is nothing to disguise or conceal. It was not dreamed out, or discovered by accident; it was studied out on the solid principles of applied medical science. It is palatable as honey and contains all the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites and the Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. This remedy is praised by all who have employed it in any of the diseases it is recommended to relieve and cure; and is effective from the first dose. In Anæmia, Scrofula, Nervous and General Debility, Influenza, La Grippe, and Throat and Lung Troubles, it is a specific. It is precisely what it is said to be, and has won the confidence of the public on that basis. You may resort to it with a faith and hope that arise from the history of what it has done for others. Dr. Thos. Hunt-Stuckysays: "The continued use of it (my practice) convinces me that it is the most palatable, least nauseating, and best preparation now on the market." One bottle proves its intrinsic value. "You cannot be disappointed in it." Sold by chemists throughout the world.

A FOCK & Co.,
12, Pottinger Street, Central.
GENERAL STOREKEEPERS, SHIP CHANDLERS
AND COMPRADRES, COAL MERCHANTS
AND STEVEDORES OF SIXTY
YEARS STANDING.

ALL kinds of Provisions, Coal, Water and Ballast supply from alongside at the shortest notice and with all possible dispatch. Moderate terms.

Orders solicited.
Hongkong, 23rd February, 1905.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

TO BE SOLD
ON
MONDAY,
the 28th day of August, 1905, at 3 P.M.,
BY

MR. GEO. P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer,
at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street.

ALL that PIECE or PARCEL of GROUND situate lying and being at Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, and registered in the Land Office as THE REMAINING PORTION OF INLAND LOT NUMBER FORTY SEVEN together with the Messuages erections and Buildings thereon, now known as Nos. 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 24, Wing Fung Street, and Nos. 1, 3, 5 and 7, Wing Fung Street West.

The said Premises are held from the Crown for the term of 999 years at an Annual Crown Rent of \$47.07.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, apply to

WILKINSON AND GRIST,
Solicitors for the Vendor,
or to
GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 17th August, 1905.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,
ON
TUESDAY,
the 29th August, 1905, at Noon, at
Yamud Bay,
(FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),
The Steam Launch

"Y U T S U M,"
(Built of Teak).

PARTICULARS:

Length over all.....8 feet
Breadth.....13 " 6 inches
Depth.....7 "
Gross Tonnage.....35 tons.
Net Tonnage.....32½ tons.
Working Pressure.....125 lb.

Boiler.....made by J. Lysaught
Engines.....made by J. & Son, Ltd.
Cylinders.....H. P. 9 in. L. P. 18 in. Stroke 13 in.
Speed 10 miles per hour.
Consumption of Coal 2 tons in 24 hours.
Draft 3½ ft 6 in. in beach condition on a flat.

A Steam launch will leave Black Point at 11.30 A.M. to convey intending purchasers.

TERMS.—As usual.

GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1905, at 10.15.1905.

Consignees.

PORTLAND AND ASIATIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM PORTLAND (OR) YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND MOJI.

The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

No Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed, and none at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by the vessel.

For further particulars apply to the Agent.

SILVERSTONE,
General Agent.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1905.

Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co's Steamer

"NUBIA,"
FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—

From London, &c., ex S.S. *Himalaya*.

From Calcutta, ex S.S. *Syria*.

From Persian Gulf, ex B.I.S.N. and R. & P. S. N. Co's Steamers.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before Noon, TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 31st instant at 4 P.M. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by the vessel in any case whatever.

Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees and the Company's representative at an appointed hour.

All claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

L. S. LEWIS,
Acting Superintendent.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1905.

FROM HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE H. A. L. Steamship

"SILESIA,"

Captain Bahle, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned, and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before TO-DAY.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns; and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 31st instant will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 31st instant, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1905.

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM RANGOON AND STRAITS.

THE Company's Steamship

"ARUNDIA,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 P.M. FRIDAY, the 25th instant, will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

This Vessel brings on Cargo ex *Zibangha* and *Gwalior*, from Madras and Pondicherry.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1905.

S.S. "ERNEST SIMONS,"

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London ex s.s. *Dardogne* and *Medoc*, and from Bordeaux ex s.s. *Ville de Marseille*, in connection with above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risks, into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon TO-DAY, requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after TUESDAY, the 29th August, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 29th August, or they will not be recognised.

All damaged packages will be examined on TUESDAY, the 29th August, at 3 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. DE CHAMPEAU,
Agent.

Hongkong, 22nd August, 1905.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBOROUGH, LONDON AND STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"RADNORSHIRE,"

Captain J. M. Haffner, having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risks into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 29th inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

SHEWAN TOMES & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 24th August, 1905.

Intimations.

THE POPULAR
SCOTCH
"BLACK & WHITE"

JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.
SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS.
By Appointment to
H.M. THE KING
and
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES

Supplied at all the LEADING CLUBS and HOTELS, and to be obtained from the principal Stores.

CAFE WEISMANN.

THE Public are invited to pay a visit to our new

TIFFIN ROOMS.

The only place of its kind in Hongkong.

A VERITABLE FAIRY LAND.

REAL GERMAN FASS BEER ON DRAUGHT.

Entrance—No. 1A, WYNDHAM STREET.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1905.

THE WINE GROWERS SUPPLY CO.

BARRETTO & Co.,
General Agents, Hongkong.

CLARETS.

Cru-Wynbron.....4.50

Cotes.....5.50

Montferaud.....5.50

Medoc.....6.00

St. Emilion.....6.00

St. Estephe.....6.50

St. Julien.....7.50

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Chateau Margaux.....9.00

Chateau Leoville.....9.00

Chateau Lafite.....10.00

Chateau Latour.....10.50

BARRETTO & Co.,
Agents.

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.WATSON'S
E

VERY OLD LIQUEUR

SCOTCH
WHISKY.THIS
CELEBRATED
BLEND
OF
THE FINEST
WHISKIES
IN SCOTLAND
IS CHARACTERISED BY ITS

FINE FLAVOUR

AND

MELLOWNESS

ATTAINED ONLY BY

GENUINE

QUALITY

AND

GREAT AGE.

Per Dozen \$16.50.

A. S. WATSON & Co.,
LIMITED,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.
Hongkong, 22nd July, 1905.

GREGOR & CO.,

34, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

1ST FLOOR.

CHAMPAGNES

PERINET

AND

FILS.

RHEIMS-CHAMPAGNE.

MODERATE IN PRICE, AND

ABSOLUTELY

GRAND VINS.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1905.

NOTICE.
All communications intended for publication in "The HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Lee House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.
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Single Copies, Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

BIRTH.
On the 26th August, 1905, at No. 11, Caine Road, Hongkong, the wife of J. C. H. L. SMITH, of a daughter. Singapore and Penang papers please copy.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1905.

"TO INSURE PROMPTNESS."

Though exiled from home where the visitor is reminded of the gratuity expected by the aggressive massing of the servants as he is about to leave his hotel, and where a couple of coppers beneath the plate is permitted in tea-shops adopting the "no gratuities" principle, the question of the 'tip' is always with us. It is one of life's little worries, or amenities, according to the point of view. There is no actual compulsion upon anyone to give it, but the attention of the 'boy' towards the end of the month and the numerous occasions upon which he visits the room on the most trivial pretext, amount to moral coercion which only the strongest-minded can resist, even if they have been poorly attended to. In the hotels of Hongkong the pooling system is adopted, and however much one wishes to justify the tip by the conception of it as a personal matter between himself and his special 'boy' the monthly 'perk' is divided among the various gangs of servants in the dining or other rooms. The T.I.P., which, being interpreted, means "to insure promptness," has more in it than the legend that formerly appeared on contribution boxes for the servants' benefit. It is often the recognition, surely not merely of clockwork precision, so noticeable among the Chinese 'boys,' but also of courtesy, and the hundred and one little shades that make the native servant a pleasant institution rather than a necessary evil. That the 'boy' should show more zealous attention, if the prospect of some little reward is before him, is only human nature and the knowledge that the 'cumshu' will come at the end of the month puts the resident's conscience at ease with regard to any little extra trouble that he may have to give. The hotel boys can usually distinguish instinctively between the fussy, petty tyrant who is merely exacting what he (very often she) can, according to the utmost rigour of the law, and the human person who knows that something exceptionally is being asked, and intends not to forget that point at the last. Only the mean and the foolishly lavish spoil the 'boys' and tend to make the position intolerable for people of more limited means. The tip is almost inevitable and certainly agreeable if taken in the right spirit, and decidedly intolerable when abused. It will be agreed that the employers in some of our hotels are justified in expecting their servants to pay for 'breakages' brought about by carelessness, but when one realises that in most instances the payments come out of the boys' 'perks' it is natural that some reasonable allowance should be made for the expectation of gratuities. So long as the richer do not wrong the less extravagant by excessive generosity many of us should long continue to cling to the privilege of tipping, not merely "to insure promptness" but, as we have said, as a recognition of the many little acts which the boys perform that are not included in their duties as hotel servants.

SHIPPING RETURNS.

The annual navigation and shipping returns issued in London last month showed an increase of a million tons in the tonnage of ships entered to the United Kingdom from abroad in 1904 as compared with 1903, and an increase of nearly a million and a half in the tonnage of ships cleared. It seems that London did the biggest trade with 10½ million tons entered, and nearly eight millions cleared, though this was a distinct decline as compared with the previous year. Liverpool was next with eight millions entered and six and three-quarter millions cleared. Cardiff's outgoing trade was the biggest with 8,344,066 tons cleared, the entering tonnage being 4,800,000 tons. Comparing these returns with those issued by the harbour master in his report for 1904

some idea can be formed of the large trade which is now being carried on in our own Colony. The total tonnage entering and clearing Hongkong during the past year, exclusive of steam launches in local trade, amounted to 24,754,942 tons, being an increase, compared with 1903, of 714,180 tons, and the highest tonnage yet recorded. London's total was under nineteen millions, Liverpool's something like fifteen millions, and Cardiff's just over thirteen million tons. These figures are decidedly satisfactory not only in respect of Hongkong's immense trade, but also as showing the increase in trade of the large ports of the mother country.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

DURING the twenty-four hours ending noon to-day, one case of plague was reported from the Central district.

Mr. Alexander Grant Gordon has been appointed a surveyor of boilers of unlicensed steamships under 60 tons burden.

LICENCES to shoot and take game granted under Ordinance 6 of 1895, are due for renewal or issue on the first day of September next.

H. E. THE Governor has been pleased, with the approval of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint Mr. G. H. Wakeman to be Land Officer with effect from the 26th instant.

PERSONS are requested to refrain from shooting deer in that portion of the Island of Hongkong which lies west of a line drawn through Magazine Gap and running north and south to the sea in both directions.

THE Roman Catholic church known as "The Rosary Church" in Des Voeux Road, Kowloon, has been added to the list of places of public worship licensed under section 3 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1875, for the celebration of marriages.

SPEAKING on board of H.M.S. Worcester, Sir John Glover recently said that the Royal Navy can no more exist without the mercantile marine to assist it than the fastest organ in the world can be played without a man at the bellows.

H.E. THE Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., was "At Home" at Government House yesterday, principally to his Chinese friends, of whom some 150 were welcomed and suitably entertained for a couple of hours.

THE Director of Police at Copenhagen has given orders for Captain Mitchell, of the steamer *Angora*, which sank the Danish training ship, *Groeg Stage*, to be criminally prosecuted. Captain Mitchell, will be charged with having caused the death of twenty-two people by careless navigation.

PROGRAMME of music to be performed by the Band of the 11th Infantry, on the New Parade Ground, on Monday next, from 5 to 6.30 p.m.:

March....."Under the Double Eagle".....Wagner
Selection....."The Gondoliers".....Sullivan
Valse....."Blue Danube".....Strauss
Overture....."Light Cavalry".....Suppe
Divertimento....."Feast of Lanterns".....Glover
Fantasia....."Folk-Songs of Italy".....Ramperscott
God save the King.

MANY people will be interested in the announcement, appearing in our advertisement columns, that the St. Andrew's Society of Hongkong propose to award prizes to children of Scottish parentage who may evince the best knowledge of Scottish history. An examination will be held in February next. Further particulars may be had by applying to the hon. secretary, Mr. W. Armstrong, at Messrs. Butterfield & Swire.

A COOLIE was walking along the Praya shouldering some planks, when Detective Territt thought he would investigate. Being asked to explain his possession of the planks the coolie said the quartermaster of the s.s. *Wing Chai* gave them to him. The quartermaster was interviewed and denied all knowledge of the man, but said the planks were the ship's property. "One month's hard labour" murmured Mr. Orme this morning.

RESIDENTS of Rose Terrace, Kowloon, are wondering when some sanitary attention is going to be paid to the corner of Robinson Road, just near the Terrace, where there is a leaky hydrant, but no drain. The consequence of this is that water lies stagnant in pools, until a most unhealthy stench is caused. As this spot is much frequented by the children of the neighbourhood for playing in the evening it certainly appears to call for attention.

MAXIM Gorki has been interviewed by a member of the staff of the "Bourse Gazette," and he has expressed the wish that the war may be continued. The reasons are given in the author's own words:—"The war has taught us a great deal; it is helping to set us free from other enemies, and it is providing the Russian people with guarantees which will enable our people to develop themselves of their own accord, and to bring about the new birth of a Russian Empire on new ideas. I am in favour of the war."

LAU FUNG was an unemployed cogito; he is now very much employed. Lau was too lazy to work, so, as he lived in a convenient place, 90 Hollywood Road, from where he could watch his neighbours' movements when they went out, he slipped quietly along the verandahs to the adjoining houses and purloined all the clothing in sight. Pawning kept him in gambling money until his little game was detected and spoilt by Mr. G. N. Orme's sending him to two months' hard labour and six hours in the stocks, with a recommendation for banishment.

ONLY the very best people are allowed to belong to the Imperial Society of Dance Teachers, which was founded as far back as 1904, and which has just held its first congress in London. The society exists mainly for the purpose of spreading elegance of movement and parts of speech in high circles, and—quite properly—holds itself aloof from law and sordid imitations. Its watchword and trade mark is, "Uniform methods in dance teaching." It seems that of late years dancing has degenerated terribly, even in the most exclusive ballrooms. Low and noisy romping may be observed in Belgrave-square, and even at the Empress Rooms and the Holborn Town Hall on occasions, and it is this distressing complaint that the austere Imperials mean to put down, or perish in the attempt.

THE penultimate performance of Fitzgerald's over-popular Circus, which took place last night was another great success, a marked feature being the very large number of Chinese families occupying the boxes and stalls, all of whom evinced the liveliest interest in the various "turns," vociferously applauding each item, and making merry over the clown's funniness. From the overture to the concluding item the show jingled merrily along, there being a hitch nowhere, and, wonderful to relate of a Hongkong performance, the ten minutes' interval was of exactly ten minutes' duration. To-day a matinee was given, and to-night the last entertainment of the present season takes place, when a special monster programme has been arranged by way of a finale. Perhaps not the least amongst those regretting the shortness of Fitzgerald Bros.' present season is the lower-level tramway company, which must, literally, have been "coining money," and will be certainly amongst those ready to give the Circus a hearty welcome on its return, which, let us hope, will be in the near future.

THE DARTMOUTH ALLOY.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERY.

A leading English trade paper remarks that an alloy which enables the ordinary iron-founder to be independent of the steel foundry and to manufacture steel castings as promptly and easily as his brass castings opens up immense possibilities. This is claimed to be quite practicable by the use of the new Dartmouth Alloy, by means of which quantities of castings are now being made by representative British engineering firms. The testimony of these firms indicates that by the aid of Dartmouth engineers can make their own tool steel from material hitherto of little value. Cast iron can be greatly improved in strength and elasticity, and malleable cast iron castings can be made equal in tensile strength to ordinary mild steel. Engineering works can thus use up all their steel and wrought-iron scrap to their advantage.

This new alloy is the invention of Mr. James W. Chenhall, M. Inst. C.E., a metallurgist of large and varied experience. The composition of the alloy is, of course, a secret, but what is more important is that the cost of the alloy is very moderate, and that Dartmouth steel castings will find a ready market and show a good profit to their producers. We may now give some brief particulars of this alloy, and follow these with some details of tests made and testimony received from users.

Dartmouth alloy is manufactured in qualities suitable for:—(1) The manufacture of Dartmouth malleable steel castings; (2) ordinary and high quality tool steel; and (3) the increase of the tensile strain of malleable cast iron castings, and of ordinary cast iron.

In the manufacture of Dartmouth steel castings, the quantity of carbon in the scrap employed governs the quantity of Dartmouth alloy required. When Bessemer or open hearth scrap, containing, say, from 0.45 per cent. to 0.50 per cent. of carbon, is utilised, then the quantity of Dartmouth alloy required is from 5.0 per cent. to 7.5 per cent. If the stock used is lower in carbon, a larger quantity of Dartmouth alloy needs to be employed. For instance, if open hearth very mild steel, containing under 0.20 per cent. carbon, be the stock, then from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. of Dartmouth alloy is used. With stock or scrap falling still lower in carbon, a higher quantity of Dartmouth alloy may be used with advantage, and the use of good, clean, low carbon, open hearth steel scrap, boiler plate scrap, or scrap from mild steel stampings is recommended.

If wrought iron scrap be the stock utilised for the production of cheap malleable castings, 12 to 15 per cent. of Dartmouth alloy is required. In the production of high quality tool steel, open hearth mild steel having a low percentage of carbon and manganese, is preferably employed, such as is used in the manufacture of boiler plates, and it is stated that a steel made from good quality mild steel scrap (boiler plate), with from 15 to 25 per cent. of Dartmouth alloy will take any degree of hardness in tempering (by quenching) and while the cutting edge may be exceedingly hard, the body of the tool from near to the point is asserted to remain as soft and ductile as the best quality mild steel.

An addition of 1 lb. of Dartmouth to 30 lbs. of malleable cast iron increased the tensile strength 30 per cent. and the elongation from 7.5 to 2.5 per cent. and, further, malleable cast iron castings can be made in tensile strength equal to ordinary mild steel. A tensile strength of from 25 to 30 tons to the square inch may thus be obtained. For increasing the tensile strength and elasticity of cast iron from 3 to 5 per cent. Dartmouth alloy is claimed to give very satisfactory results, greatly increasing the elasticity of the cast iron, and increasing the strength 15 to 20 per cent. In special cases, as high as 30 per cent. Dartmouth may be used to advantage.

SHIPPING JETSAM.

PINNACLE ROCKS OFF STONECUTTERS.

The Harbour Master has issued the following notice to mariners, dated 23rd inst.—
Two pinnacle rocks have been discovered on a line between the N.E. point of Stonecutters Island and the Trocas Rock, forming part of a ridge of rocks now covered with mud extending from that point to the mainland.

The outermost of these two rocks is one cable from the point, and has this day been marked on its North Eastern side with a white NUN BUOY with the word ROCKS painted thereon in black letters.

There are 3 fathoms of water on each of the pinnacles at L. W. O. S.

The channel for vessels of 15 feet draught and above is between this buoy and the "Trocas" Rock Buoy, 80 feet wide, with 4 to 5 fathoms of water in it.

FOREIGN CHILDREN AND THEIR NURSES.

WEIGHING THE AMAH IN THEIR BALANCE.

We wrote on this subject some time since and find that the question has been raised in Shanghai, where, describing a scrimmage in Hongkong Park between two Chinese amahs, a correspondent said:—

And this is the education vouchsafed to and provided for English children out in the East. Compared to the life of our children at home is it not a real inferno? There large cool, clean, well ventilated nurseries, plenty of open-air exercise; and whenever and wherever possible intelligent attendants. Books, games, pictures, gradually leading up to work, all the time doing something towards the formation of character. Out here character is also being formed in some few cases, perhaps under the eye and supervision of mother or governess, but oftener than not our children are dependent on the very people of whom we speak with such biting contempt, for their first impressions, the widening of the horizon, their moral views, to say nothing of their physical ease and culture.

"A Reasonable Foreigner," in a letter contributed to the *Shanghai Times*, takes a very different view. He (or she) says:—

Now my impression of the life of a great many of Shanghai's little children is, that a large number of them are very much better situated here than they would be at home, if their parents filled the same position there as here. Many a child who has an amah at her beck and call here, would have to "fend" for herself if she were at home, or be left to the care of a slatternly maid-of-all-work, who, circumstance permitting, would spend half the night in reading penny novelettes, and the greater part of the day in planning "aids to beauty" with an eye to conquering the Duke or the Earl whom she expects to "happen along," and marry her.

No, the "inelligent attendant" mentioned is not so prevalent at home as the writer assumes. Most of the young girls prefer to be typewriters or shop-girls in preference to looking after small children. Of course, much depends on the wages paid in return for services given, but any one who has had anything to do with servants at home can readily "tot up" the class of nurse that could be secured for the outlay per month which I reckon is about the average wage paid in Hongkong.

As for the "surroundings tending to awaken interest and create a love for the beautiful," the chances are that brick walls, smoky air, and the Kindergarten department of a Board School would surround a child at home, who in Shanghai has the run of the fore-shore, the Public or Hongkong gardens, and the recreation grounds, not forgetting the services of the much-maligned amah.

With regard to "the formation of character," there are many mothers in Shanghai who have plenty of leisure to attend to that department who, had they been at home, would have had to "turn to," and do all their own house cleaning and cooking, so that there is not much excuse for the mother who allows her children to be "dragged up anyhow" as the saying goes.

Many women who have had the services of faithful and intelligent amahs, will, I am sure, agree with me in thinking that there are many worse servants in the world to be had, and infinitely prefer them to the pert, empty-headed, nursemaid at home, who more often than not possesses an accent far removed from King's English, which is frequently transmitted to her little charges, who sometimes retain it through life.

My own opinion of the Chinese domestic is that they are pretty much what a mistress makes them. A woman who fails to secure in the course of a short time some semblance of good in her Chinese servants, or who is continually changing them, is undoubtedly the possessor of one of three things, namely, meanness, want of culture, or a bad temper. When all three are present the authorities ought to have the power to incarcerate the owner in an asylum for mental diseases, till she recovers her balance and thus helps to elevate our social position in the eyes of our heathen domestics, who put a high value on patience and self-control and despise a lack of either. In this respect the Chinese certainly teach Westerners a valuable lesson, which if taken advantage of would go far to lessen the discomfort and friction which so many foreigners here believe exists, and which must have a more or less demoralising effect on the youthful mind.

FORT Said, July 29.—The battleship *Vengeance* one of the four here since Sunday night, has something seriously wrong with her machinery, which defect made it necessary for the *Albatross* to tow her a considerable distance in the Malacca Straits. She is to leave at 2 p.m. in company with the *Ocean*, *Centurion*, and *Albatross* and arrangements have been made by the *Ocean* to tow her as far as Malta, where the necessary repairs will be effected.

TELEGRAMS.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

PEACE CONFERENCE.

INDEMNITY IMPOSSIBLE.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 26th August, 12.15 p.m.

According to the Japanese journal *Kokumin*, M. de Witte, the Russian Plenipotentiary, has declared that, in any event, the payment by Russia of an indemnity is absolutely impossible.

CONFERENCE AT TOKIO.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 26th August, 12.15 p.m.

An important conference of the Japanese Ministers was held in Tokio yesterday.

TRIPLE EXECUTION

AT SHANGHAI.

CONDEMNED MEN CONFESS.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 26th August, 12.15 p.m.

The three Sikhs convicted of the murder of the late No. 1 watchman at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Shanghai, were hanged yesterday evening. They confessed their guilt.

BLAZE AT KOWLOON.

MATCHES ABLAZE.

Considerable excitement, not to say consternation, was evoked this morning when, at eight o'clock, high flames with dense volumes of smoke were seen from this side to be rising from what appeared to be Messrs. Blackhead and Co.'s coal sheds at Blackhead Point. Investigations, however, elicited the fact that the conflagration had broken out in the matchsheds at the foot of Blackhead Hill, well removed from Blackhead's Godown. These matchsheds were erected on ground rented, by a contractor, named Lin Wo Hop, from Mr. Geo. P. Lamert, as executor of the estate of the late Mr. O'Keefe ("The King of the Cannibal Islands," who is believed to have been drowned some four years ago) and were used as a factory for making attic roofs, and preparing other material for matchsheds. The fire broke out in one of these sheds, which was only occupied by a young boy left as caretaker while the coolies were at work in the other sheds, but the cause of the outbreak could only be surmised, as immediately it occurred the boy bolted and could not be found. Thus no alarm was given until the fire had made such headway that the flames and smoke were observable from the Tsui Tsui Station, whence the fire-fighters, under Inspector Langley, augmented by the contingent from Hongkong, under Captain Lyons, repaired to the scene, and as it was close to the water's edge they soon had volumes of water playing on the flames. The material on which the fire had to feed, however, was of so indammable a nature that very soon a dozen sheds and their contents were merrily burning, throwing up great shafts of flame and dense clouds of smoke. The heat was intense, but the intrepid firemen held their ground, and after an hour's battle with the flames, had the satisfaction of seeing them gradually subdued. Fortunately, the wind that was blowing at the time was from the south-west, keeping in that direction, the fire never at any time threatened a row of matchsheds on the reclamation, or Messrs. Blackhead's premises a little further south. It is surmised that the boy-caretaker was smoking and, carelessly handling matches, set fire to the first shed, thus causing the outbreak. This, however, cannot be determined until the boy is found, and a search is now being made for him. The amount of the damage done could not be estimated as the place was still smouldering at latest advices. We understand that no insurance had been effected.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

Indian (*Lairang*) 28th inst.
German (*Room*) 29th inst.
German (*Prinz Eitel Friedrich*) 29th inst.
Canadian (*Torric*) 30th inst.
American (*Capricorn*) 31st prox.
Canadian (*Empress of Japan*) 6th prox.
American (*Siberia*) 13th prox.

The s.s. *Sagam* from China and Japan arrived at New York on 19th inst.
The P. & O. S. S. *Korla* will leave here on 6th prox. for San Francisco via Amoy, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama.
The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Prinz Eitel Friedrich* left Shanghai via Foochow, to-day, at 4 a.m., and may be expected here on 29th inst.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Tartar* arrived at Yokohama at 3 p.m. on 24th inst., and left again at 6 a.m., Saturday, for Kobe where she is due to arrive at noon, on 27th inst.
The Imperial German Mail s.s. *Room* carrying the German Mail with dates from Berlin of the 1st inst., left Singapore on Friday at 8 a.m., and may be expected here on 29th inst.; at 1 p.m.
The P. & O. S. S. *Siberia*, which left San Francisco on 16th inst., will arrive at Yokohama on 31st inst., making the trip from San Francisco to Yokohama via Honolulu in 14 days. She may be expected here on 13th prox.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's.]

The Peace Conference.

LONDON, 24th August.
The Conference is adjourned until Saturday, M. de Witte being desirous to refer to St. Petersburg concerning the Japanese compromise, which asks Russia to repurchase half of Saghalien for Yen 1,200,000,000.

The Prospects of Peace.

Count Lamsdorff has authorised Reuter's agent at St. Petersburg to declare, that Russia will pay no direct or indirect contribution, nor give any cession of territory. Seemingly the negotiations are no longer in the hands of the Delegates, and the issue rests with the Tsar, who yesterday had a three hours' conference with the American Ambassador. An authoritative statement from Portsmouth says that the proposal for the purchase of the northern portion of Saghalien, although in a new form, is identical with the proposal already rejected, and merely amounts to an insistence on the war costs under the name of purchase money. Russia cannot pay an indemnity, and peace cannot be assured unless Japan withdraws her demand for war costs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

THE R.A.O.B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."
SIR,—The committee of the above club consider it their duty to bring to the notice of the members and public, (the Battery Path case) that Mr. Ellis violated the rules of the club by causing it to be opened when found closed, and the women who were supposed to have gone with him did not enter the club premises. If they had attempted to do so they would have been refused admission, as it is one of our most stringent rules. No females are allowed into the club unless by special invitation from the committee and then only at dances or socials. (Mr. Ellis for violating the rules has been expelled from the Lodge and Club). Thanking you to give publication to the above letter.—I remain, etc.,

JOHN J. BLAKE,
Secretary, for Committee.

R.A.O.B. Club, No. 1 Queen's Road,
Hongkong, 26th August, 1905.

THE LEPROSY CURE.

EXPERIMENTS AT KASAU.

A TOTAL FAILURE.

Simla, 1st August.

A detailed report by Lieutenant-Colonel Semple, Director of the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli, is published on Captain Rost's Leprosy experiments at Kasauli.

The object of these experiments, which were carried out by Lieutenant-Colonel Semple with the co-operation of Captain Rost, who went to Kasauli last January for the purpose, was to test Captain Rost's claim to have succeeded in cultivating the leprosy bacillus and to have prepared "leprolin."

The experiments were carried out with media prepared by Captain Rost from leprosy cases which he had selected, and the report states that Captain Rost agreed that the methods adopted were what he himself wished done to demonstrate his method of cultivating the leprosy bacillus. They were continued through February, March and April, under every possible condition which Captain Rost could suggest for their success. One series, for example, were made under artificial conditions of atmospheric pressure to assimilate to that of Rangoon. The result, however, was a total failure, it being found that when all precautions possible in a well-equipped laboratory were taken to exclude errors from contamination no growth whatever in the media inoculated with leprosy bacilli took place, and Colonel Semple states that if these precautions had been adopted by Captain Rost when experimenting in Rangoon, the chances are that the literature from his pen on the subject of the cultivation of leprosy and the preparation of "leprolin" would never have been published.

The cultivation of the bacillus having failed, there could be no preparation of "leprolin" from such cultivation. The following is Colonel Semple's summary of his conclusions:—
(1) Captain Rost has failed to demonstrate a growth of the leprosy bacillus in his media at Kasauli. I have followed and carefully repeated his experiments and tried others of my own, and have also failed to obtain a growth; (2) the materials used to inoculate the media were chosen by Captain Rost himself, and without doubt it was taken from leprosy cases and contained leprosy bacilli in large numbers. They were considered by Captain Rost as very suitable for the experiments carried out; (3) from the fact that the leprosy bacillus has not yet been cultivated on any artificial medium that we know of, the preparation of "leprolin" is for the present an impossibility; (4) defective technique in the preparation of his media and in eliminating subsequent contaminating growths are the probable causes which have given rise to Captain Rost's mistakes. When a sterile medium was used and subsequent contaminations avoided the results were invariably no growth; (5) the temporary benefits said to have been obtained by the so-called "leprolin" may have been due to the filtered toxins from the contaminated media used in its preparation, one of the many so-called cures for leprosy which have from time to time during the past century gained a short-lived reputation.

THE VOLUNTEER CONCERT.

The first promenade concert of the season, unavoidably postponed from last Saturday, was given on the Volunteer Parade Ground yesterday evening, before a very large audience. The weather could not have been better—dry, balmy, and with delightful though gentle breezes blowing, the Volunteers were favoured with an ideal night for such a function. There was only one change in the programme, necessitated by the absence of Mr. P. W. Goldring who was down to sing "To Anthea," a very old but popular favourite, which we have heard him give in purest style and finest expression. Owing to the change in the date of the concert his engagements did not permit of his being present last evening. His place, however, was very ably filled by Mr. Edwards who sang—"Absent, yet Present"—an appropriate substitute—in his well-known form. The programme opened with the playing of the march from Tanhauser by the splendid band of the West Kents, whose music is always so thoroughly appreciated. The opening bars of the piece were withheld for the arrival of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, which took place with all His Excellency's considerate punctuality. The first and second items over Mrs. H. M. Webb and Mr. F. Austin sang, "It was a lover and his lass," with fine rendition, and were forced to respond to an undeniable encore. Miss Blair then recited, with considerable grace and verve, "The Dandy Fifth," which was listened to with every attention. Mr. Walston stepped on to the well-lighted stage and contributed some comic selections which were received with delight, and more humour demanded and given. The playing of selections from "The Country Girl" brought the first half of the programme to a conclusion. After an interval for refreshments the band announced the opening of the second part by rendering the enticing strains of "The Blue Danube" waltz, which every one knows and enjoys. "Is Love a Dream?" was beautifully sung by Mr. C. H. Grace, who was compelled to come to the front again and give another song, which he did with a clear and expressive rendering of "Thy sentinel am I." Mr. F. Joki's violin playing then entranced the audience. This gentleman is a consummate master of his instrument, and is full to the finger tips of poetry and expression. Mrs. Webb followed with "I mind the day," very carefully sung, and elicited another encore. Comic selections in costume by Mr. Walston then amused the audience, and the playing of selections from "The Orchid" by the band brought an excellent and very enjoyable concert to a close.

It is almost needless to add that those responsible for the arrangements, including the illuminations around the ground, are deserving of every praise for their capital work. May the success of last evening's concert be repeated on the 16th prox, when it is understood another such enjoyable entertainment will be given.

THE INDIAN ARMY CRISIS.

CIVIL VS. MILITARY.

THE VICEROY'S POWER.

London, 1st August.

In the House of Lords, 24th night, Lord Ripon said he agreed with Lord Curzon's minute on the Indian Army and felt the importance of maintaining the full power of the civil government. Lord Roberts said it was essential for the security of India that the Viceroy should not be dependent on the advice of a single soldier, however distinguished he was and even if he had an entirely Indian experience. It was essential the Viceroy should have on the Council an officer, not necessarily a great soldier, who was acquainted with India, especially with the Native Army, which was a most delicate problem, and, unless this was borne in mind, he foresaw trouble in the future, as in the past. He admitted that more power had fallen into the hands of the military member than was desirable, but the procedure and not the system was at fault. It was, he said, not desirable that anything should be done in England that might lessen the Viceroy's dignity in the eyes of the natives.

The Marquis of Bath said that Lord Curzon and Lord Kitchener were both masterful men and both possessed a masterful vocabulary. Matters had reached a crisis when it became necessary for the Home Government to try and remove the cause of friction. With regard to the complaint that, if the Commander-in-Chief was at the front he could not be at the Viceroy's side, it should be remembered that the Commander-in-Chief could not wage war without the Secretary's leave. Owing to improvements in the means of communication the Commander-in-Chief's absence on inspections would not be so inconvenient as in former times. If the arrangement freed the military side of the Indian Government from the former difficulties, he did not think that any future Minister would upset it. Mr. Brodick's decision, he said, was not his own autocratic judgment, but was the mature conclusion arrived at by the Cabinet.

Mr. Brodick had not taken sides, but sought the truth and came to the conclusion that the existing state of things could not continue with safety to the State. The arrangement should be given a fair trial before it was condemned. After the Marquis of Bath had finished Lord Lansdowne said that nothing was further from Government's thought than personally to offend Lord Curzon or derogate his positions. He pointed out that Government had absolutely refused to abolish the office of Military Member, whose duties Army administration were distinct from those of Commander-in-Chief. Though advisable that the Viceroy should have the advice of both the Commander-in-Chief and Military Member, it was no reason precluding the re-adjustment of the duties, which was absolutely necessary. The question had been fully discussed when Lord Curzon was here last year. A decision was urgently necessary, and it was a matter for congratulation that an end had been put to the period of tension.—*Forward.*

THE ARMY CRISIS.

A SIMLA VIEW OF THE SETTLEMENT.

Simla, July 20.

The principal official event here since my last letter has been the announcement by Lord Curzon of the modification arranged between the Government of India and the Cabinet in the Indian Army Reorganisation Scheme. That an amicable arrangement has been come to in the matter is certainly a subject for congratulation. Lord Curzon considered, not unnaturally, that it would have been impossible for him to remain on as head of the Government of India if no change in the scheme forced upon that body from Home could be obtained. The retirement, under such circumstances, of a Viceroy whose career as head of the Indian Administration has been so pre-eminently distinguished, would have been a public misfortune. Not only would there have been a loss in itself, but it would have lowered, dangerously, the prestige hitherto attaching to the high post of the representative of his Majesty in this country. The ultimate supremacy of the elected representatives of the British people over the Government of India has always been admitted, but in this case there has been a lack of consideration in overruling the Viceroy and his Council which has been almost unprecedented. Apart from the merits of the case in dispute, therefore, the obtaining of modifications which satisfy Lord Curzon and his colleagues is a vindication of the consideration due to the Government of India and its head. The scheme itself has never been a satisfactory one. It set out to remove dual control in the Army of India, and has finished up with the leaving of this undoubted source of inefficiency and friction changed, but certainly anything but abolished. Lord Kitchener was certainly right in demanding that the army should have but one direct representative in the Council of the Viceroy. His proposals were objectionable only so far as they would have resulted in the uniting of the executive duties of command with the administrative functions of Government control. This flaw was not inherent. It could have been removed by the simple expedient, proposed by Lord George Hamilton in the House of Commons, of relieving the military representative in Council of executive work. Lord Kitchener would then have become Secretary of State for War in India. There would have been an Inspector-General of the forces, as at Home. Decentralisation could have been further effected by the devolution of the duties of the Supply Department and of those of the intelligence and mobilisation branches to two other officers. It would have been possible to give to Lord Kitchener the freest hand. There would have been no need for the hampering safeguards which the Government of India have now found it necessary to weave round his powers. No constitutional dangers would have been created, for the result in effect would have been to produce a far stronger Military Department than at present, to strengthen instead of to weaken the one organisation to which the Government of India rightly looks for controlling extravagance in military outlay. The hasty action of the Home Government has rendered all this impossible, has produced a system which adds to the evils of dual control the constitutional dangers of uniting administrative and executive functions. Lords Curzon and his Council have been driven to focus their attention upon the means of reducing the latter of these two defects. They have thus found themselves in a position, which, however tactfully approached, has necessarily been one of antagonism to the Commander-in-Chief. Lord Kitchener has been made to appear as if he had been stretching forth his hand to take powers dangerous to the State when all that was required to meet his reasonable demands was an arrangement which would have given the country the full benefit of the Military organisation for which it pays. Whether or no army expenditure in India may have been unduly swelled, the fact remains that the public have a right to expect the most efficient possible fighting-machine to be kept up for the money spent. The soldier who possesses, at present, the highest military reputation in the British Empire, has been engaged by the Indian Government for this purpose. It is essential that nothing should be done to hamper him in the execution of his duties or to discourage him in his task. His work in peace-time is solely to organise and administer. Therefore he should be relieved of all other functions. At the same time he should be given the full confidence of the Government of India. There should be no need for diluting his measure with those of other and opposing experts or for weakening by divided counsels the symmetry of his schemes for giving India the best possible armament which the money the Government of India are prepared to spend can buy. The formidable task of the Transvaal Army was largely due to the excellence of the weapons with which it was armed. The disasters of the British were caused more by lack of mobility than by any other failing. Yet here in India Lord Kitchener is to be responsible neither for the procuring of weapons nor for the transport supplies and horses upon which mobility chiefly depends. At the same time he remains burdened with responsibility for all the functions of the drill sergeant which might well be delegated to others. An executive commander in peace time must have closer personal acquaintance with the corps under his orders than any administrator at headquarters can obtain. To combine the functions is to hamper efficiency in both.

Lord Curzon has indicated the gravest doubts as to whether the present modified scheme can last. When it has gone the way of other compromises, as it is to be hoped it will do before the stress of war is placed upon it, there will be room for the introduction of a sounder system, for one which is no compromise, but based upon businesslike principles and upon confidence, instead of distrust.

THE INTERNATIONAL BANK.

NEW PREMISES.

On Monday another migration of a business house to larger and more commodious premises than those at present occupied will take place. Not a new feature marks this removal inasmuch as it is not an exodus from but an entrance to Queen's Road. As will be seen from our advertisement columns, on Monday next the International Banking Corporation will open its doors for business at No. 9, Queen's Road, on removal from the old premises opposite the new Post Office building. The premises to be occupied were formerly known as the New Victoria Hotel, at the corner of Queen's Road and Ice House Street, and where once the click of the billiard ball was heard there will now resound the clink of coin current, as the tellers pay or receive cash over the counter, and where drinks were served now cheques will be cashed, and drafts sold. The Bank is too old and well-known an establishment to need more than passing mention here, having branches in England, India, America, the Straits Settlements, Burma, the Philippines, China, Japan and Canada, with agents in all parts of the world. The new house of the Bank has been very handsomely furnished, and possesses one of the longest lengths of counter of any bank in the East. Cleaned, decorated and painted the interior is scarcely recognizable, and as extra windows have been let in the old gloomy, dark appearance has given place to a bright, light and cheery place—an ideal home for a bank in the tropics, and where no doubt the business of the new tenants will continue to be as brisk as of old.

THE CHINESE EASTERN RAILWAY.

ITS PROSPECTS UNDER THE JAPANESE.

An influential Japanese recently returned to Tokio from a tour through Manchuria, and he was much impressed with the value of the Chinese Eastern railway and the country through which it passes. The gentleman, according to one of our vernacular contemporaries, is of opinion that if the railway is to come into the possession of the Japanese at the close of the war, its value and uses should be carefully studied, and for this reason the traveller spent most of his time in Manchuria surveying the line. He is convinced that it will be no less valuable to Japan for commercial than for military purposes. While at present the passenger traffic is of little importance the goods traffic is full of promise. A great source of future freight is the Wuchun colliery, a mine from which coal of excellent quality is obtained. Since June last the coal from the mine has been found sufficient to work the railway in the occupation of the Japanese, and in the opinion of an expert, when complete provision is made for working the mine it will not be a difficult task to turn out 10,000 tons of coal per day, an output that about equals that of all the mines in Kyushu. Even if the transport of one-third of such an output could be taken by the railway it would form an important source of revenue to the line. Another great source of income would be derived from the transport of beans and bean-cake from an extensive producing district stretching north from Liaoyang to Tieling. At present this product is conveyed in great quantities by junk to Newchwang. The freight rate of the junk is equal to Y10 per ton, and in winter when the Liao is frozen the produce is carted overland in horse trucks. All this traffic could easily be attracted to the railway, entailing a saving to agriculturalists and quicker dispatch at all seasons of the year. The traveller calculates that if produce is carried to Tairen by rail, 300 miles, at 2 sen per ton per mile, the freight rate would be Y6 per ton, a saving of Y4 on the present charge. If the Chinese were to reduce their rate there is plenty of margin for the reduction of the railway rate. Thus while the railway is indispensable for military purposes, its prospects commercially are very great.—*Japan Chronicle.*

COMMERCIAL.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.

London—Bank T.T. 1/11 3/16
Do. demand 1/11 1/2
Do. 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2
France—Bank T.T. 2/43
America—Bank T.T. 47
Germany—Bank T.T. 1/97
India T.T. 1/44
Do. demand 1/44
S'anghai—Bank T.T. 7/11
Singapore T.T. 5 % prem.
Japan—Bank T.T. 94
Java—Bank T.T. 1/16

Buying.

4 months' sight L/C. 1/11 1/2
6 months' sight L/C. 1/11 1/2
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York 47 1/2
4 months' sight do. 48
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne. 1/11 1/2
4 months' sight France. 2/47
6 months' sight do. 2/48
4 months' sight Germany. 2/3
Bar Silver 28 7/16
Bank of England rate 10 7/8
Sovereign 10 7/8

OPIUM QUOTATIONS.

To-day's quotations are as follows:—

Malwa New Per picul
Old 1,100
Older 1,200
Oldest 1,400
Patna New 1,100
Old 1,087
Benares New 1,087
Old 1,047
Persian (Paper) 750/910

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, First Assistant of the Hongkong Observatory:—
On the 26th at 11.50 a. The barometer has fallen over Formosa and the Philippines, and risen in N. China.
The depression mentioned yesterday is still indicated. It is probably lying to the NE. of Luzon, and moving towards NW. or N.
Pressure is high over N. China.
Gradients are somewhat steeper, and the wind is likely to freshen from NE. in the Formosa Channel, and from N. and NW. over the NE. part of the China Sea.
Forecast—light or moderate W. winds; sea.

To-day's Advertisements.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, HONGKONG.

THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF HONGKONG propose to award PRIZES TO CHILDREN of Scottish parentage who may evince the best knowledge of Scottish history. An examination will be held in February, 1906. For further particulars, apply to—
W. ARMSTRONG,
Hon. Secretary,
(C/o BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE),
Hongkong, 26th August, 1905. [872]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned has received instructions from CHAS. S. COY. Esq., to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION,

ON SATURDAY,

the 2nd September, 1905, commencing at 11 A.M., (with an interval from 12.45 to 2.30 P.M.), at his residence, No. 31, Caine Road,

THE WHOLE OF THE

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising:—

MARINBURK MADE SHANGHAI BROCADED SILK COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, PILE CARPETS, FINE LACE CURTAINS, TAPESTRY GOBELIN, BRASS FENDERS AND LAMPS, BRONZE FIGURES, COLOURED ENGRAVINGS, WATER COLOURS, CANTON BLACK WOOD TABLES AND STANDB, etc., etc.
MARINBURK MADE SIDBOARD, DINNEN WAGGON and OVERMANTELS, MOROCCO COVERED COUCH and ARMCHAIRS, MANTREL CLOCKS, REVOLVING BOOK STAND, B OK CASE, WAITING DESKS, FRENCH PORCELAIN DINNER SERVICE, ELECTRO-PLATE WARE, CHAMPAGNE FRAPPE MACHINE, MUSIC STANDS, etc., etc.
DOUBLE BRASS AND BRASS MOUNTED BEDSTEDS, MARINBURK MADE WARDROBES with BEVELLED GLASS DOORS, MARBLE-TOP BUREAUX, MARBLE-TOP WASHSTANDS, RUGS, etc., etc.
FINE TAPESTRY COVERED BEDROOM SUITE,
ALSO
1 RACHALS UPRIGHT GRAND PIANO, in good condition.
1 SET BALZAC'S WORKS (23 vols.)
1 FINE MARBLE BATH.
1 EDWARD'S GEYSER.
1 HALL'S COMBINATION SAFE.
On view from Thursday, the 31st August. Catalogues will be issued.
TERMS:—Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 26th August, 1905. [875]

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN-LIJN.

FROM YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND MOJI.

THE J. C. J. Lijn Steamship

"TJILATJAP"

Captain Koops, having arrived from above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd. at Kowloon. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 4th September will be subject to rent.
All Claims for damage must be sent in before the 3rd September or they will not be recognised.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned.
The steamer will be despatched for BATAVIA, CHERBON, SAMARANG, SOERABAYA and MACASSAR on the 30th instant.
Head Agency of the
JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN,
Alexandra Buildings.
Hongkong, 26th August, 1905. [874]

BUTTER.

DURING THE SUMMER

WE WILL DELIVER

FRESH AUSTRALIAN BUTTER,

in 1/2 lbs. Pats.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LIMITED.

Hongkong, 26th August, 1905. [49]

FITZ GERALD BROS. MAMMOTH CIRCUS COMBINATION.

Patronised by His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong, Sir MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

LAST NIGHT! LAST NIGHT!

GREATEST CIRCUS THAT EVER CAME EAST.

THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON,

at 4.15.

(For the Children, Price 30 Cents).

THIS (SATURDAY) EVENING,

FINAL PERFORMANCE OF SEASON,

Commence at 9.15 P.M.

3RD GRAND CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.

LOCATION: CAUSEWAY BAY.

Prices:—Boxes and First Chairs \$3; Second Chairs \$2; Stalls \$1; Gallery (Chinese only) 50 cents. Special rates for men of the Naval and Military Services.

Box Plan at ROBINSON PIANO COMPANY.

Special Trains will leave the Post Office every few minutes direct to the door and will await passengers after the performance.

A Special Tram runs to the Peak after the performance.

All accounts against the Circus should be delivered at Hongkong Hotel, before NOON, TO-DAY, August 26th.

HAL GEORGE, Representative.

Hongkong, 26th August, 1905. [866]

Intimations! SPECIAL SALE

AT ROBINSON'S OF PIANOS, PIANOLAS, MUSIC AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF ALL KINDS PREVIOUS TO REMOVAL.

The following Pianos are thoroughly sound and reliable, and are

GUARANTEED FOR THE CLIMATE.

Intending buyers should not miss this most favourable opportunity of securing one of these Great Bargains.

UPRIGHT PIANOS

Make	Sale Price	Former Price
Lunan	\$150	\$475
Cabin Piano	180	250
Hopkinson	280	480
Playel	295	525
Own Make (B. P. Co.)	300	450
Schiedmayer	320	500
Kirkman	325	480
Stuart	335	450
Rosenoranz	350	600
Own Make (Over Strung)	385	600
Broadwood	400	600
Spaeche	400	600
Collard	500	700
Haake	525	800
Rachals	575	750
Krauss	585	850
Hopkinson	600	750
Winklemann	675	750
Steinweg	700	850

GRAND (Small & Large) PIANOS.

Collard	\$300 formerly \$350
Broadwood	380 " 700
Collard (as New)	880 " 750

Hongkong, 26th August, 1905. [321]



Trade Mark

TELEPHONE NO. 135.

THE FAVOURITE BRANDY OF THE

FRENCH IS

MARTELL'S

*...\$25.00 per Case of one Dozen

V.S.O.P.	28.00	"	"	"
V.V.S.O.P.	49.00	"	"	"
V.V.S.O.P.	50.00	"	"	"

Even their cheapest quality is recommended by the Medical Faculty for Invalids and delicate people.

BUY THE GENUINE

"TANSAN"

BOTTLED BY

THE

OLIFFORD-WILKINSON TANSAN

MINERAL WATER CO., LD.

KOBE—JAPAN.

Per Case of 48 Half-bottles\$6.50

Per Dozen " " 1.70

Per Case of 100 Quarter " 8.00

Per Dozen Quarter Bottles 1.10

SOLE AGENTS—

H. PRICE & CO.

12, QUEEN'S ROAD.

PRICE LIST OF APPLICATION.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1905. [714]

could have been happier than we were and there are heaps of things that make up for some left in Merrie England."

For instance, a punt down the Thames is not to be compared to a paddle in a dug-out canoe or a sail in the same by a square of calico hoisted. There is a delightful lake right away among the mountains, only five miles off, and no one ever enjoyed a lunch like the one we had in the little reed bungalow on the shore. Our first journey there was unique. The lunch was provided by the Government officials, and really I never imagined men were so domesticated. They superintended the culinary arrangements. The Administrator made a meat pie, the crust of which might have been improved. Another produced a sort of trifle; while a third manufactured scones; and we tried not to notice the lack of baking powder. But we survived all three.

ABOUT THE PYGMIES.

Mrs. Fisher never reached the vast forest—about a hundred and twenty miles from north to south, and nearly two hundred from east to west—which is the home of the "Batwa" (Pygmies), but she met several, who had been kidnapped, but had no desire to return to their old roving life. In height, she says, they range from four feet to four feet eight inches, and their bodies are perfectly proportioned. They are covered with an almost imperceptible downy hair, and their features she describes as "really ugly," though, for that matter, they are no worse off than many other African tribes. Of Pygmy life and habits Mrs. Fisher says:—

They possess no permanent homes, but are constantly on the move, never spending more than three to five days at one spot. They burrow among the thick undergrowth, and make clearings round the trees in order to erect their tiny grass huts, which are built in less than an hour, with saplings stuck round in a circle, and tied at the top; grass and leaves are then thrown round as a roofing. Very few adopt any clothing. Each man travels about with a low and quiver of poisoned arrows in order that he may keep the family supplied in food. Although peaceable among themselves, there is no civil cohesion among the pygmies. They recognise no King or chief; each man is perfectly free to control his own household.

There are no class distinctions; but the best huntsman will have the largest following, because with his spoils he is able to effect exchanges with the near neighbours of the tribe—the Bambusa, a sturdy, thick-set race varying in height from four feet eight inches to five feet who live on the north-east fringe of the forest.

These little folk are never agriculturists, they live solely by hunting, and they are so agile that they can spring from branch to branch when following an animal. Again, they will pursue an elephant for hours before their poisoned dart takes effect on the great beast. Never, surely, was there a more curious illustration of the triumph of mind over matter than is afforded by the spectacle of the tiny Pygmies standing on the carcass of the fallen monster, and cutting it up for food. It is curious that the poison from their darts has no effect upon them when transmitted through the flesh or the blood (of which they are particularly fond) of their prey. The poison is said to have lost its power when once it has acted. They are bad neighbours to the other tribes, being very thirstily given; but their neighbours fear them, by reason of their extraordinary power of self-concealment, and their skill in using their poisoned weapons.

"BLASIYO"

Missionary energy had boldly tackled this diminutive (and to all appearance somewhat stony) vineyard, with the result that at Mboga Mrs. Fisher found seven Pygmies under Christian instruction, one of whom had been baptised, and three more, in Kabale, learning to read. Blasiyo was the first of his tribe to be baptised. There is a photograph of Blasiyo, clad in a long white shirt, and holding the Union Jack in one hand and the Stars and Stripes in the other—a somewhat pathetic picture. Blasiyo, we read, is a cheerful little person, and, though work "is a great trouble to him" (ye gods! we should think so!), he is "always ready for tricks and games." Football is his speciality, and he never misses a chance of squeezing his way into the game, even when the men's team is on the ground. In order that he might have a game with his friends whenever he could shirk his work, he invented a very ingenious football, with a goat skin stuffed with dried banana leaves. We must confess to a considerable sympathy for Blasiyo, and shall look forward to seeing him, in due time, all the glory of apron and gaiters Pygmyism, a real Bishop on the platform at Exeter Hall. And yet (such is the "cussedness" of savage human nature) may there not be moments, if only in his dreams, when Blasiyo becomes a backslider, and vague memories of ancestral elephant hunts in the mazes of the mysterious forest fleet across his flay brain? Doubtless, the converted Pygmy will have a better time of it than his benighted brethren when he gets to the next world—but one is not quite so certain about this life.

SOME OTHER TRIBES

Mrs. Fisher met other queer folk besides the Pygmies, as for example, the Bahuku, who live near the Congo. Among these people human flesh is regarded as a luxury, besides copra-panels, and the upper classes buy from the peasants their dead at a price of from two to six goats. A dinner in smart Bahuku society must be a gruesome banquet; one hopes they do not, like the typical savage tribe of Sydney Smith, "always keep cold missionary on the sideboard," but it is surprising to learn that "they expressed no wish for a teacher to be sent to them." They might have died of him! Then, there are the Babra and Balaga folk whose women have a practice which Mrs. Fisher believes to be unique (we sincerely hope it is) among Central African tribes, which is this:—

The women bore a hole in the top lip, and gradually increase this until it is able to enclose a disc of wood two, and even three, inches in diameter. A Mubira woman came to call on us whose disc measured two and five-eighths inches across. The size of the wood inserted

proclaims the rank of the person. Peasants are only allowed to wear pieces of stick of the same dimension as a match.

The weight of the wood causes the lip to fall down over the mouth, and, in order to eat, it is necessary to lift up this shutter with one hand while the other conveys the food to the mouth. Frequently the lip breaks under the strain put upon it, in which case the disconnected ends are carried back and tied to the ear. "Il faut souffrir pour être belle." In conclusion we can strongly commend Mrs. Fisher's book to all those who are fond of exploring the Dark Continent without the trouble of going there in person. The photographs, in particular, are numerous and excellent.—F. M. G.

SUPPLYING.

Arrivals.

Lucia Vittoria, Ital. s.s., 595, J. Boardman, 25th Aug.—Kwong-chow-wan 24th Aug, Gen.—Musso & Co.
his, Ger. gunboat, 1,000, Baron von Meerscheid-Hullessem, 26th Aug.—Amoy 25th Aug.
T'jilap, Dut. s.s., 2,470, H. Koops, 26th Aug.—Japan via Amoy 25th Aug, Gen.—J. C. J. L.
Nor. s.s., 860, N. Andersen, 26th Aug.—Haiphong 23rd Aug, Gen.—Aagaard, Thoresen & Co.
Hansang, Br. s.s., 1,356, S. Wilde, 26th Aug.—Shanghai and Swatow 22nd Aug, Gen.—J. M. & Co.
Kwanglee, Ch. s.s., 1,468, R. Lincoln, 26th Aug.—Shanghai 23rd Aug, Gen.—C. M. S. N. Co.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

Ithaka, for Kebab.
Choyang, for Swatow.
Kwangshah, for Shanghai.
Dajin Maru, for Swatow.
Crutahall, for Kutchinotzu.
Sileira, for Shanghai.
Haitin, for Swatow.
Talamachus, for Saigon.
Carl Diederichsen, for Haiphong.
Sutong, for Singapore.
Courtfield, for Bombay.

August 26.

Malta, for Europe.
Zafiro, for Manila.
Haitan, for Coast Ports.
Sileira, for Shanghai.
Samsen, for Swatow.
Kalgan, for Shanghai.
Sutong, for Samarang.
Kwangshah, for Shanghai.
Talamachus, for Saigon.
Ithaka, for Kebab.
Eiger, for Tientsin.
Eyang, for Tientsin.
Courtfield, for Bombay.
Carl Diederichsen, for Haiphong.

Passenger Arrivals.

Per Kwanglee, from Shanghai—10 Chinese.
Per Kwanglee, from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. Langley, Mrs. Bradley, and Mrs. U. Yoshoka.

Shipping Report.

Sir Lucia Vittoria from Kwong-chow-wan:—Light Ely winds, and fine clear weather throughout.
Sir Kwanglee from Shanghai:—Light to moderate, variable winds, and fine weather throughout.
Sir Kwanglee from Shanghai:—Moderate SW. monsoon, with fine clear weather, and smooth sea throughout the trip.

Vessels in Port.

Steamers.

Alavia, Br. s.s., 2,973, J. E. Davison, 25th Aug.—Kobe via Moji 20th Aug, Gen.—Mr. Ebboboy.
Arangona, Ger. s.s., 3,324, R. Schuldt, 19th Aug.—Portland, Or. 22nd July, Gen.—P. & A. S. Co.
Borneo, Ger. s.s., 1,144, F. Sembill, 21st Aug.—Sandakan 16th Aug, Timber and Gen.—M. & Co.
Changsha, Br. s.s., 1,800, T. Moore, 19th Aug.—Australian Ports via Manila 16th Aug, Gen.—B. & S.
Childar, Nor. s.s., 1,102, H. Nielsen, 22nd Aug.—Sourabaya 13th Aug, Sugar—T. Dam's & Co.
Choyang, Br. s.s., 1,424, T. W. Selby, 25th Aug.—Canton 24th Aug, Gen.—J. M. & Co.
Dajin Maru, Jap. s.s., 900, H. Ohta, 23rd Aug.—Tamsui via Amoy and Swatow 22nd Aug, Gen.—O. S. K.
Devaongse, Ger. s.s., 1,057, T. V. Bruhn, 19th Aug.—Bangkok and Swatow 18th Aug, Rice and Teak-squares—B. & S.
Germania, Ger. s.s., 1,714, S. Petersen, 14th Aug.—Bangkok 8th Aug, Rice—M. & Co.
Hingang, Br. s.s., 1,434, W. E. Sawyer, 18th Aug.—Java 10th Aug, Sugar—J. M. & Co.
Jehenzollern, Ger. s.s., 5,660, O. Kraef, 20th July.—from Genoa, Ballast—M. & Co.
Korea, Am. s.s., 5,651, A. Zeeder, 21st Aug.—San Francisco 22nd July, via Honolulu, Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki and Shanghai, 18th Aug, Mails and Gen.—P. M. S. Co.
Kowloon, Ger. s.s., 1,491, H. Stehr, 20th Aug.—Bangkok 14th Aug, Gen.—B. & S.
Kumsang, Br. s.s., 2,077, E. J. Buller, 16th Aug.—Calcutta and Amoy, Penang 7th, and Singapore 10th, Gen.—J. M. & Co.
Lennox, Br. s.s., 2,361, F. McNair, 15th Aug.—Callao 29th June, Ballast—D. & Co. Ld.
Lightning, Br. s.s., 2,122, J. G. Spence, 21st Aug.—Calcutta 5th Aug, Penang and Singapore 16th, Gen.—D. S. & Co. Ld.
Lydia, Ger. s.s., 1,771, C. Meyer, 22nd Aug.—Canton 22nd Aug, Gen.—B. & S.
Machew, Ger. s.s., 995, Harjes, 23rd Aug.—Bangkok 17th Aug, Rice—M. & Co.
Montana, Am. s.s., 208, D. C. Camus, 21st Aug.—Manila 18th August, Gen.—Portuguese.
Nord, Nor. s.s., 730, G. araldsen, 13th Aug.—Canton 12th Aug, Gen.—Aagaard, Thoresen & Co.
Onsang, Br. s.s., 1,787, J. T. Davies, 19th Aug.—Samarang 9th Aug, Sugar—J. M. & Co.
Opiland, Nor. s.s., 844, Th. W. Schlyter, 21st Aug.—Kobe and Nagasaki 18th Aug, Gen.—Yee Hing Tai.
Paklat, Ger. s.s., 1,018, H. Demas, 24th Aug.—Bangkok and Holbow 17th Aug, Rice and Gen.—B. & S.
Petrarch, Ger. s.s., 1,252, C. Ahrens, 7th Aug.—Amoy 14th Aug, Ballast—S. W. & Co.
Progress, Nor. s.s., 1,641, M. G. Steen, 21st Aug.—Probolingao and Sourabaya 9th Aug, Sugar—Order.
Pundua, Br. s.s., 2,126, C. J. Swanson, 24th Aug.—Singapore 19th Aug, Gen.—J. M. & Co.

Rubi, Br. s.s., 1,619, A. H. Nottley, 21st Aug.—Manila 18th Aug, Gen.—S. T. & Co.
Sumatra, Ger. s.s., 1,84, H. Wina, 24th Aug.—Singapore 17th Aug, Ballast—N. D. L.
Sutton Hall, Br. s.s., 2,570, B. Dowe, 24th Aug.—New York 7th July, Case Oil—S. O. Co.
Taming, Br. s.s., 1,350, Outerbridge, 25th Aug.—Manila 22nd Aug, Gen.—B. & S.

Sailing Vessels.
Pass of Brander, Br. ship, 2,000, W. J. Ryder, 28th July.—Philadelphia 14th April, Case Oil—S. O. Co.

Steamers Expected.

Vessels	From	Agents	Due
Lalsang	Singapore	J. M. & Co	Aug. 28
Willahad	Sydney	M. & Co	Aug. 28
Roon	Singapore	M. & Co	Aug. 29
P. E. Friedrich	Japan	M. & Co	Aug. 29
Bentleuch	Singapore	C. L. & Co	Aug. 29
Tantat	Japan	P. & O	Aug. 30
Pera	Singapore	P. & O	Aug. 30
Coptic	Japan	O. & D	Sept. 1
Emp. of Japan	Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Sept. 6
Siberia	San Francisco	P. M. Co	Sept. 13
Nicomedia	Portland	P. & A	Sept. 16

Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Returns.

Vessels	From	Agents	Due
Nord	at Kowloon Dock		
Lauscha	"	"	"
Changsha	"	"	"
Montanes	"	"	"
Cornfield	"	"	"
Rubi	"	"	"
Devaongse	"	"	"
Machew	Cosmopolitan	"	"
Craigball	Aberdeen	"	"

Ships Passed The Canal.

Outward—2nd August—4th August—Agamemnon, 9th August—Swanley, Slavonia, Sylvania, 12th August—Polynesian, Tunkah, Longor, 15th August—Benavere, Glenurvet, 18th August—Yatou, Redhill, Nordfol, Flintshire, Andalusia, 22nd August—Sophie Rickman, Bayra, Diomed, Socotra, Jauriginterry, Neilly, Ohio, 25th August—Dardanus, Caledonia.
Homeward—4th August—Pera, Jason, Sileira, (Aust.), 12th August—Palermo, 15th August—Monte, Glancus, Sackin, Sikk, 18th August—Benlond, 22nd August—Nippon, Java, Oanfa, 25th August—Hysan, Scharnhorst.

Arrivals at Home—4th August—Bantua, 9th August—Darmstadt, 12th August—Dorantien, 15th August—C. Ferd Ladis, 18th August—Ping Suty, Slam, 22nd August—Manica, Yunnan, Sagami, 25th August—Annam.

TO-MORROW.

St. Peter's Seamen's Church.
Tenth Sunday after Trinity.
Queen's Road, West.
Morning Prayer 11 a.m., Venite, Savage; Te Deum, Oakeley; Jubilate, Lemon; Hymns, 119, 184, 594 and 445.

Evening Prayer, 6:30 p.m., Magnificat, Barnby; Nunc Dimittis, Tucker; Hymns, 91, 187, 593 and 218.
Holy Communion 7:45 p.m.
The Church launch Dayprayer will call on ships carrying white crews to bring friends ashore to the services between 9:15 and 10:30 a.m., and between 5:15 and 6 p.m., returning afterwards. The answering Nunciat is the Call flag. All the services are free and unappropriated. Visitors welcome. Books, &c. provided.

Sunday school 10 to 10:45 a.m.
Roman Catholic Cathedral—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9:30 a.m. Benediction, 5:30 p.m.
German Bethesda Chapel, West Point—Morning Service, 11 a.m.
St. Francis' Church, Wanchai—Mass (Chin.), 6 a.m., (Port.), 7:30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.
St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road—Morning Service (English), 9 a.m.
St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point—Mass, 8 a.m.
Union Church—Services, 11 a.m., and 6 p.m.

Post Office.

Swatow and Shanghai—Per Choyang, 27th Aug. 9 a.m.
Callao (Peru)—Per Le-nex, 28th Aug. Noon.
Swatow, Amoy, Chefoo and Tientsin—Per Chihli, 28th Aug. 3 p.m.
Amoy, Straits and Rangoon—Per Pandua, 28th Aug. 5 p.m.
Swatow—Per Halmun, 29th Aug. 9 a.m.
Batavia, Samarang, Sourabaya and Macassar—Per Tylislof, 19th Aug. 11 a.m.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta—Per Lightning, 20th Aug. 2 p.m.
Manila—Per Taming, 20th Aug. 3 p.m.
Ningpo and Shanghai—Per Shaohing, 20th Aug. 3 p.m.
Europe, &c. India, via Taitcorin—Per Prima Elita Friedrich, 30th Aug. 11 a.m.
Shanghai—Per Tingtang, 31st Aug. 2 p.m.
Wellfleet, Cheloo, Newchwang and Tientsin—Per Kapi, 31st Aug. 3 p.m.
Manila—Per Yungang, 1st Sept. 3 p.m.
Cebu and Iloilo—Per Kaijong, 1st Sept. 3 p.m.
Manila—Per Rubi, 2nd Sept. 11 a.m.
Europe, &c. India, via Taitcorin—Per Armand Belic, 5th Sept. 11 a.m.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta—Per Lalsang, 5th Sept. 2 p.m.
Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth—Per Eastern, 6th Sept. 10 a.m.
Amoy, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Honolulu and San Francisco—Per Korea, 6th Sept. 11 a.m.
Kobe—Per Changsha, 6th Sept. 3 p.m.
Europe, &c. India, via Taitcorin—Per Bengal, 9th Sept. 11 a.m.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver, (B.C.)—Per Tartar, 13th Sept. 11 a.m.
Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth—Per Willahad, 19th Sept. 10 a.m.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.—Per Empress of Japan, 20th Sept. 11 a.m.
Manila, Zamboanga, Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Hobart, Launceston, New Zealand, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth—Per Changsha, 23rd Sept. 3 p.m.

Mails for Canton, Samshui, Wuchow, and Macao will be closed on week days at 7:30 every morning. On Sundays the mail for Macao will be closed at 8 a.m., and that for Canton at 9 a.m.

Mails for Nantao, Sanbue, Kongmoon, Kunchuk, Samshui, Wuchow, and Canton every evening at 5 p.m. On Sundays the mails will be closed at 9 a.m.

No mail will be closed for Canton on Saturday evening.

On and after 15th July, 1905, the rate of postage on letters from Hongkong and the British Postal Agencies in China to Australia will be at the rate for 4 cents for each half ounce instead of 10 cents as at present.

The rate of postage on letters from Australia to Hongkong and the British Postal Agencies in China will be reduced from 2d. to 2d. for each half ounce.

VISITORS AT THE HOTELS.

HONGKONG.

Adams, R. F. J. Lewis, A. R.
Bannell, C. O. Lewis, L. S.
Bell, A. M., Lieut. H. F. MacDonald, D.
Bingham, Mr. & Mrs. Marriott, Dr. O.
J. E. and child Meikle, Mr. and Mrs.
Bisney, W. S. Merles, Mrs.
Bonner, E. A. Merrill, Mrs. L.
Brighton, F. G. Miller, P. L.
Broughall, L. Moon, Mr. & Mrs. E. M.
Bunner, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Dr. W. B. A.
W. C. Morrison, Mrs.
Carter, W. L. Newington, A. G.
Chalkley, H. F. Oei, Miss G.
Chambers, Mr. & Mrs. Oei, Miss A.
H. K. Oei Teong Ham, Mrs.
Clark, Hon. Dr. Francis Oliffe, O. C.
Clark, M. O. Packer, R. L.
Clark, T. Parit, Mr. F. N. Le.
Clegg, R. M., Eng. Lt. Parit, Mr. F. N. Le.
Cunningham, G. Patey, Mrs. E. O.
Davies, F. O. Peake, W.
Deveney, Miss C. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs.
Dodd, F. H. Reel, Dr. L. R.
Douglas, Capt. & Mrs. J. Roach, Mrs. J. S. and child.
Downing, Mr. T. C. Rochet, L.
Fletcher, C. Scott, A. O.
Grant, A. W. Sheen, J. J.
Grone, Dr. F. Silley, R. P.
Grone, Mrs. F. Skinn, A. J.
Hall, Capt. T. Skott, O.
Haworth, C. Snewin, E. A.
Harding, R. Stewart, W. M.
Hurst, R. N., Engineer Thompson, M. L.
Innes, Capt. R. Thornborough, J.
Kerr, F. Unbehauen, C. H.
Kobb, Miss C. Watkins, Miss E.
Lain, A. H. Whitlow, A. W.
Large, H. J. C. Wong, S. K.
Lawless, Major Wright, Mr. & Mrs. T.

Accott, E. F. Lay, Mrs.
Battie, A. Loudon, Mr.
Battie, M. F. Macfarlane, Dr. and
Boggs, Mr. and Mrs. Mrs.
Bourcher, Mr. & Mrs. Machie, Mr. and Mrs.
Boyd, Capt. and Mrs. Maddaford, Mr.
Brown, D. E. Martin, R.
Chichester, Maj. A. A. Meler, Mr. and Mrs.
Clohier, A. N. Mitchell, R.
Cocks, Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Muelle, E.
Darling, Col. O'Neill, J. L. Hugh.
Dixon, Mr. Parry, Major.
Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Major.
Dymack, Lieut. A. Phillips, Major.
Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Pollock, E. C. Mr.
Filer, Mr. Sawyer, Capt. and Mrs.
Giles, Capt. Scrutton, Mr. T.
Gudell, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, A.
Hillingsworth, Mr. and Mrs. Mrs.
Hauker, B. Brotherton Stokes, Mr.
Haynes, Col. Thomas, Mr.
Hueland, F. A. Uffel, W. von
Holsaun, A. Vanden, Gordon
Howard, W. H. Vereker, Capt. and
Hudig, D. Mrs.
Jedries, H. U. White, Dr. M. I.
John, H. R. Wilford, F. C.
Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. Whit, Major.
Kelsall, Major & Mrs.

CRAIGIEBURN.

Barnett, H. J. O. Russell, Mrs.
Bown, C. A. Smith, E. Grant
Bower, H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs.
Frost, B. Grant
Gaskell, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Percy
Jameson, P. S. Webb, Mr. and Mrs.
Lyons, F. W. Montague
Marchant, Capt. and Wilson, Dr. Newell
Mrs. and children Young, J. Ashton
Nicholls, E. A.

OCCIDENTAL.

Alber, B. E. Major, Capt. and Mrs.
Anderson, G. and child
Chandler, Lieut. Army Ohme, A.
Educa "Dept." Owen, O. E.
Fischer, Ch. Schilbach, Dr. P.
Hales, G. L. Smend, Dr. G.
Key, Dr. H. Smend, Dr. H.
Kril, G. Swaby, Mr. and Mrs.
Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. T.
Lowe, Miss Siasie Vojacek, R.
Munro, Miss A. Wintz, Robt.

KOWLOON.

Batubue, R. MacGregor, J. W.
Hall, J. S. McAab, W. S.
Hart, J. F. Stresinski, May

Aug. 25 at 10 a.m. Aug. 25 at 4 p.m.
Barometer 29.88 29.78
Temperature 85 87
Humidity 76 63
Rainfall —

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS ON THE CHINA STATION.

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS ON THE CHINA STATION.						
NAME.	CLAS.	TONS.	GUNS.	I.H.P.	CAPTAIN.	LAST REPORTED AT
Alacrity	despatch-vessel...	1,700	4	3,000	Commander Harbord	Weihaiwei
Andromeda	cruiser, 1st class	11,000	16	16,500	Captain R. Nelson Ommanney	Weihaiwei
Arauc	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander R. H. Heaton	Weihaiwei
Astraea	cruiser, 2nd class	4,350	10	7,000	Captain Lionel G. Tufnell	Weihaiwei
Bonaventure	cruiser, 2nd class	4,350	10	7,000	Captain H. H. Torlesse	Shanghai
Cadmus	sloop	1,070	6	1,400	Commander H. du C. Luard	Yangtze
Cherub	water-tank and tug	390	—	300		Hongkong
Clio	sloop	1,070	6	1,400		Yangtze
Diadem *	cruiser, 1st class	11,000	16	16,500	Commander H. D. Wilkin, D.S.O.	Weihaiwei
Dec	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Captain H. W. Savory	Weihaiwei
Erne	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander H. E. Sullivan	Weihaiwei
Eurick	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander Bathur	Weihaiwei
Eze	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander Lewin	Weihaiwei
Fame	torpedo boat destroyer	306	6	5,700	Commander A. F. Everett	Weihaiwei
Flora	cruiser, 2nd class	4,350	10	7,000	Lieut.-Commander Stevenson	Weihaiwei
Handy	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4,000	Captain H. Grant-Dalton	en route from England
Hart	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4,000	Lieut.-Commander J. May	Weihaiwei
Hecla	special service torpedo-v.	6,400	—	2,400	Lieut.-Commander Richards	Hongkong
Hogue	cruiser, 1st class	12,000	14	21,000	Captain E. F. R. Charlton	Weihaiwei
Iphigenia	cruiser, 2nd class	3,600	8	7,000	Captain Shortland	Weihaiwei
Ischee	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Captain William B. Fawcner	Hongkong
Janus	torpedo boat destroyer	280	6	5,900	Lieut.-Commander C. Seymour	Weihaiwei
Kinsba	river gunboat	85	4	1,200	Lieut.-Commander W. H. Darwall	Hongkong
Moorhen	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Commander E. V. R. Dugmore	Yangtze
Oiler	torpedo boat destroyer	350	6	6,500	Lieut.-Commander F. B. Noble	West River
Rambler	surveying-vessel	835	6	650	Lieut.-Commander J. Kiddle	Weihaiwei
Robin	river gunboat	85	2	240	Commander C. E. Moore	West River
Sandpiper	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander Robert E. Vaughan	Hongkong
Snipe	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander H. T. Atley	Yangtze
Snipe	torpedo boat destroyer	250	6	6,500	Lieut.-Commander Davidson	Hongkong
Taku	cruiser, 1st class	12,000	14	21,000	In reserve	Weihaiwei
Toutlet	receiving ship	4,650	6	—	Captain W. L. Grant	Hongkong
Tamar	river gunboat	180	2	800	Commodore Dicken	Yangtze
Teal	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Commander E. Secretan	Yangtze
Virago	torpedo boat destroyer	355	6	6,500	Lieut.-Commander Gregory	Weihaiwei
Waterwitch	surveying ship	620	4	450	Commander R. W. Glennie	Surveying
Whiting	torpedo boat destroyer	306	6	5,900	Lieut.-Commander C. E. L. Thomas	Weihaiwei
Widgeon	river gunboat	190	2	800	Lieut.-Commander G. B. Spicer-Simson	Yangtze
Woodcock	river gunboat	150	2	550	Lieut.-Commander Hugh Somerville	Yangtze
Woodlark	river gunboat	150	2	550	Lieut.-Commander Jas. F. Knox	Yangtze

